

What's that Bloomin' Thing?

Plant Family: Rosaceac

Genus: Pyrus

Species: calleryana

Common Names:

Flowering Pear or Callery Pear

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Master Gardener Training Class 2018



A Complete Enigma!

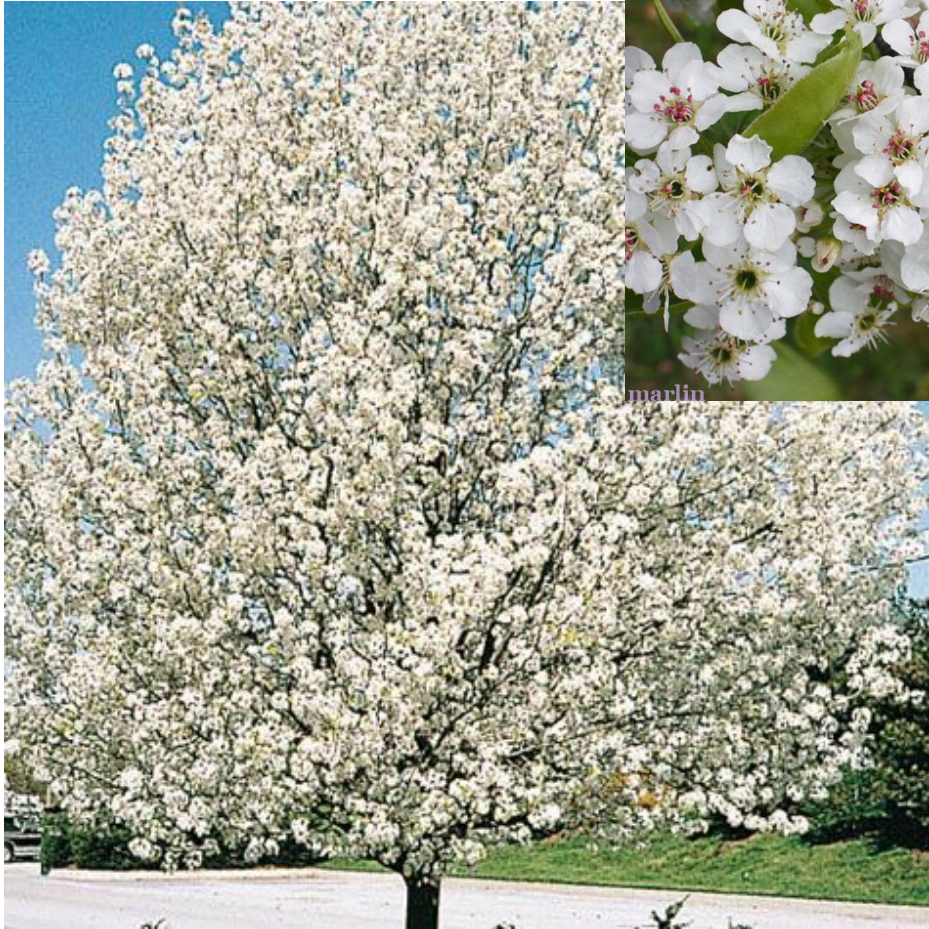
Why Plant a Tree that Produces Flowers, but No Fruit?

- You have to:
 - Pay for it
 - Water it
 - Fertilize it
 - Trim it
 - Rake its leaves
 - Give it optimal garden space
- REALLY?!?! Why???



Why Plant a Flowering Pear Tree?

It Is Absolutely Gorgeous!!



Pyrus calleryana Cleveland
(Flowering Pear)

Pyrus calleryana Chanticleer
(Flowering Pear)

It Has Amazing Spring and Fall Colors

Pyrus calleryana Bradford
(Flowering Pear)



Pyrus calleryana Autumn Blaze
(Flowering Pear)



Collectible and Pressable Leaves



Many Cultivars

- Aristocrat
- Bradford
- Capital
- Chanticleer
- Cleveland Select
- Everscreen
- Fauer
- Manchurian
- Prairie Gem
- Redspire
- Whitehouse



Enjoy Prairie Gem's Glossy green leaves all summer long

Important Details

- Species of pear native to China and Vietnam
- Species named after Joseph-Marie Callery (1810–1862)
- Sent specimens from China to Europe
- Deciduous, except for cultivar everscreen
- Susceptible to sooty mold and white fly
- Resistant to fireblight, oak root fungus & verticillium wilt
- Weak crotches prone to damage in wind



General Characteristics Vary by Cultivar

- Rounded shape and erect habit
- Five-petal white flowers
- High or low spreading canopy for good shade
- Dense foliage makes it a useful screen
- Grow well in wide range of soils
- So easy to grow, could become invasive
- Medium height facilitates pruning
- Nonallergenic
- Relatively short life span (<25 yrs)
- Fruit - small, hard, almost woody
- Birds spread the seeds



Fruit <1cm



Why Plant a Non-Fruit-Bearing Pear Tree?



- Tree is really just for decoration
- Cultivars in a range of sizes and shapes
- Pruning for aesthetics, not fruit production
- Avoids creating an attractive nuisance
- Don't like/can't eat/can't manage all the fruit
- No fruit to attract rodents
- No dropped fruit to clean up
- Less care required

Besides the Aesthetics, What Else?



- Among finest-textured fruitwoods
- Prized for woodwind instruments and woodcuts
- Veneer for fine furniture
- Used as rootstock for fruit-bearing pear trees



Ready to Plant a Flowering Pear? Am I a Convert?

- No, I love to
 - Watch fruit slowly mature
 - Eat pears
 - Preserve pears
 - Cook pears and cook with pears
 - Make pear jam and pear salads
 - Share pears and jam with others
 - Is your mouth watering yet?
- But beautiful additions if you have acres of garden to fill!



Thanks for Listening!

Questions?



Soon as I win the lottery, y'all come on over to see the *Pyrus calleryana* entrance to the new ranch!