ORCHARD IN BLOOM, NEVADA COUNTY, CAL.



Felix Gillet

The Father of California and Pacific NW Perennial Agriculture

- Established his Barren Hill Nursery in Nevada City, CA in 1871, the second major nursery in California
- Imported and bred hundreds of plant varieties that became the foundation of West Coast agriculture, and particularly California perennial crops. Many of his introductions are still commonly grown, while others provided the foundation breeding material for todays commercial and home varieties.
- Ran nursery until his death in 1908, then carried on by C.E. Parsons until 1967, when it was the oldest operating nursery in California
- Primary source for the commercial establishment in the West: Almonds, Walnuts, Chestnuts, Filberts, Prunes, European Plums, Wine, Table and Raisin Grapes, Strawberries, Pears, Cherries, Figs, Apricots, Peaches, Quince, Apples, Roses, Currants, Gooseberries and numerous other crops

Gillet House & Nursery Nevada City, CA

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· The modern odyssey of Felix Gillet began in 1970 when Amigo Bob Cantisano picked some of his fruit at Buck's Ranch. . The Felix Gillet Institute was founded by Amigo in 2001 to further the research on, and preservation of, the amazing array of food producing plants brought to California and the West by Felix Gillet of Nevada City, and other pioneering farmers, ranchers and homesteaders.

The Felix Gillet Institute

- Dedicated to the appreciation, preservation and propagation of heirloom edible and ornamental perennials from the Sierra
- . 501(c)3 non profit organization
- · theFGI@gmail.com or 530-292-3619
- www.felixgillet.org
- . Facebook: Felix Gillet Institute

- Have identified more than 625 heirloom tree locations, comprising over 2000 specimens in the Sierra foothills
- Extensive variety identification and evaluations by Jenifer Bliss and Adam Nuber

Educational training program for high school ag students

. Fruit tastings and education

• Offering more than 75 varieties of organically grown trees propagated from Gillet heirloom introductions including: apples, pears, cherries, figs, plums, prunes, quince, grapes, almonds, chestnuts, walnuts, lilacs & roses

Available as dormant, bareroot plants
 January through March

• Future offerings: Mulberries, Hawthorne, Medlar, Hickory, Holly and many more vars of fruits, nuts and grapes



China Garden

Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park

November 2013

lixgillet.org

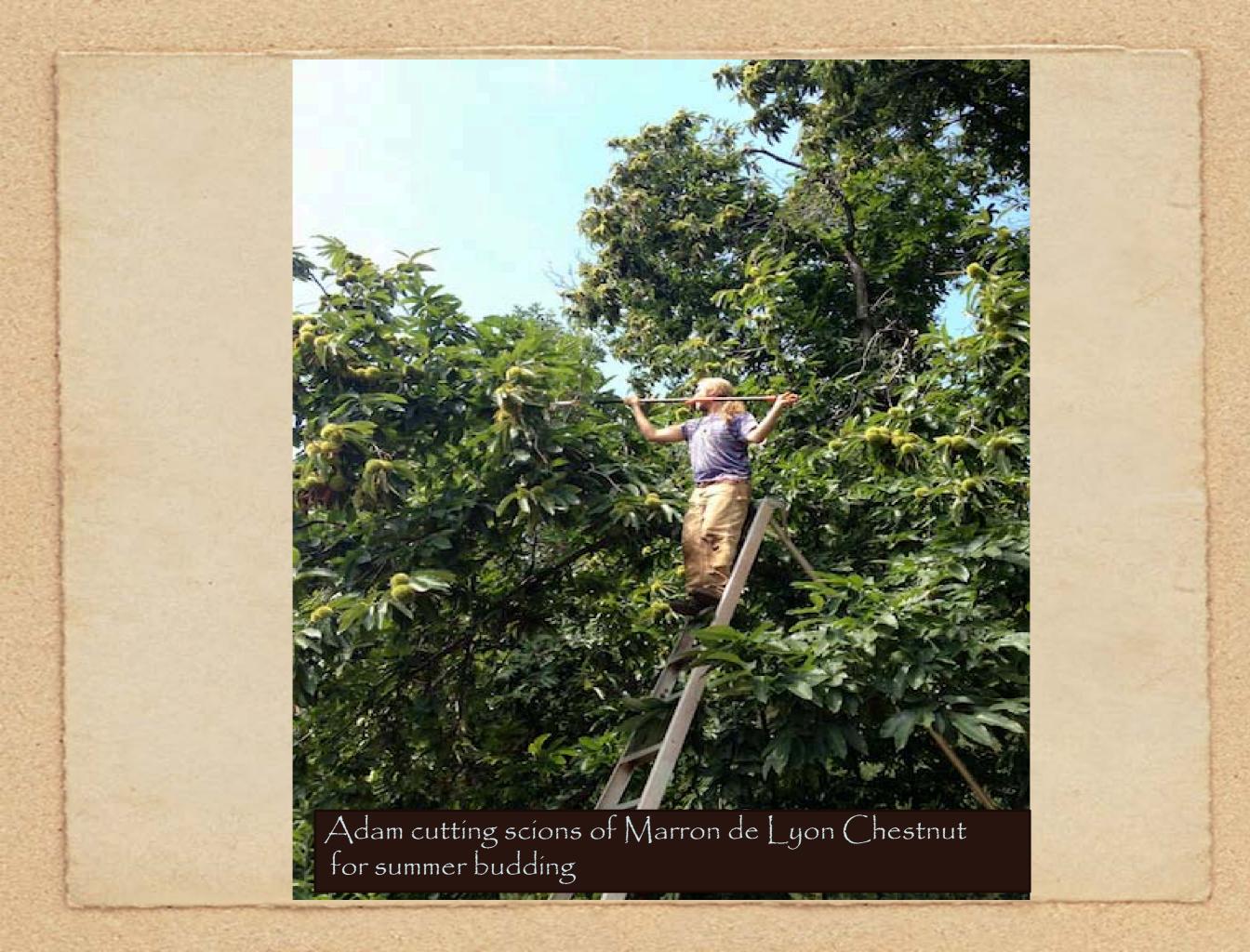
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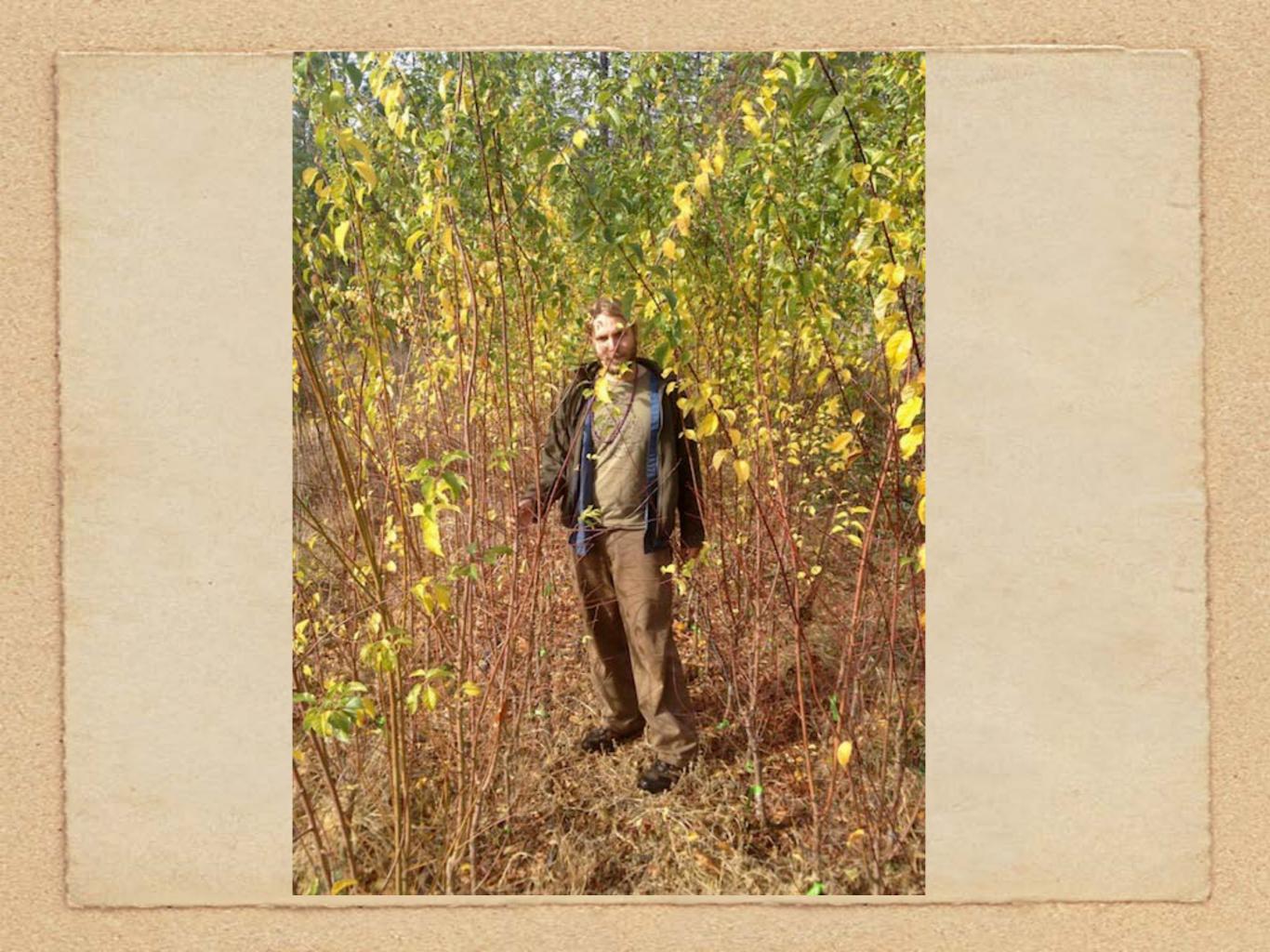






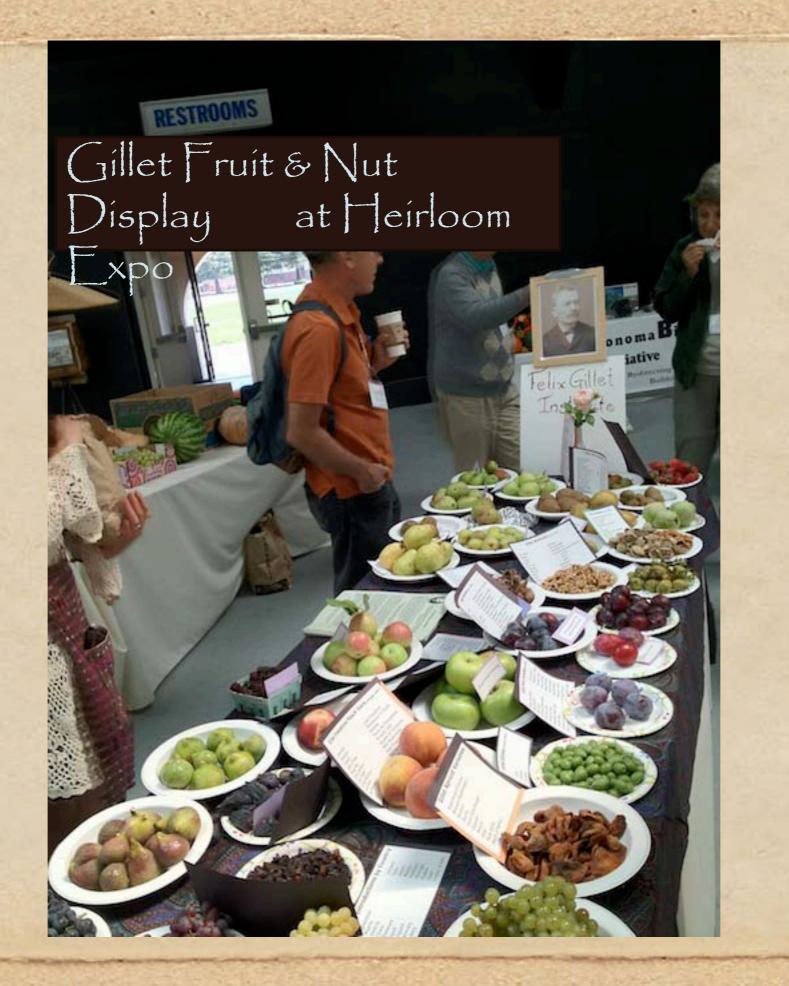
CA CP

Adam in FGI Organic Nurseru





























How You Can Help Our Project

- · Become a member of the FGI
- . Tell us about old plants you know of
- · Donate to our non profit organization
- · Buy and plant our nursery stock
- Volunteer for fruit explorations and nursery work
- · Spread the word about Felix and the FGI

Support Our Crowdfunding Campaign to Plant a Mother Orchard to Preserve the Best of the Gold Rush Era Fruits, Nuts and Grapes

• We are planting a Mother Block to bring these wild plants into a protected, organically farmed genetic preserve for future generations to enjoy

- We need to raise \$30,000 by August 12
- You can support us for \$10 and up, with great Thank You gifts for contributors
- See <u>www.barnraiser.us</u> to donate
- Eureka! Help Save Heirloom Fruits and Nuts

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Buck's Ranch

 The four Buck brothers established their ranch at 4200' in the Sierra adjacent to Orleans Flat hydraulic gold mine in 1868, raising fruits, nuts, dairy and meat cows, chickens and grain to sell to the miners of the San Juan Ridge.

Amigo Bob rediscovered their legacy in 1970,
 12 miles down a dirt road in the forest

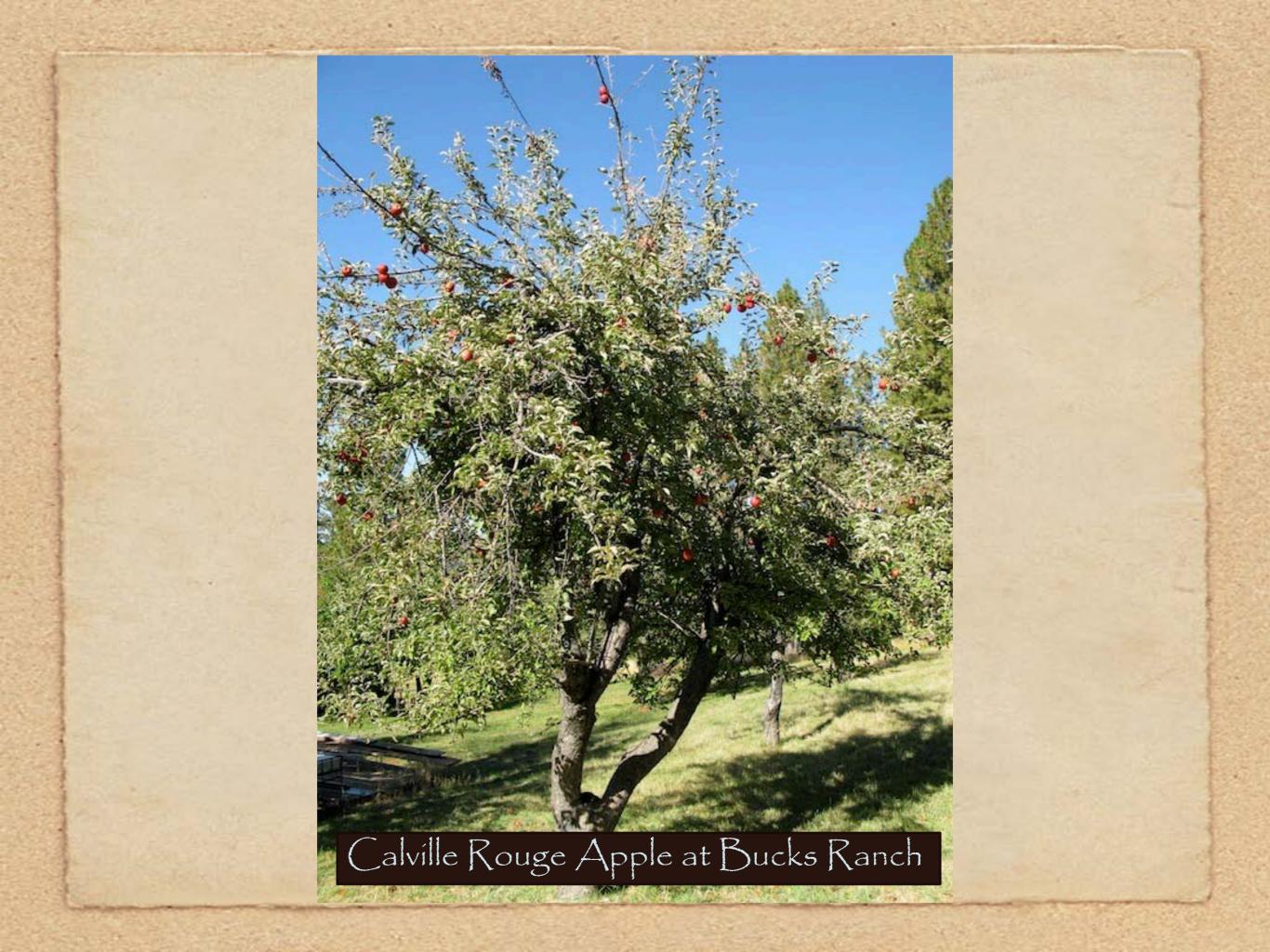








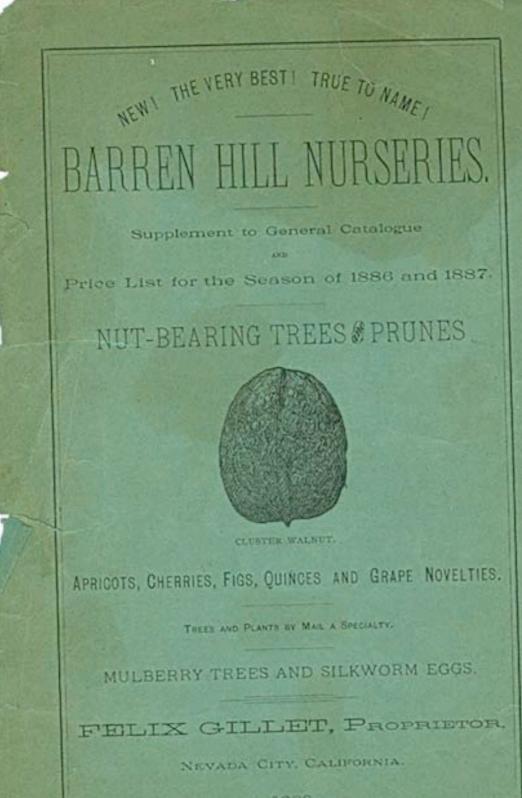






Yellow Bellflower Apple Buck's Ranch

- In addition to the 70+ apple trees, Buck's Ranch has numerous pears, cherries, walnuts, black locust, blackberry, prune and raspberry.
- . All of these appear to be from Gillet



1886

Restances a do nes se dute by, s. s.

Felix Gillet was the French Connection
He also introduced plants from Afghanistan, Algeria, Austria, China, Denmark, Egypt, England, Germany, Greece, Holland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan, Portugal, Russia, Spain and the United States



Gillet Fig Varieties

 Blanquette, Black of San Jose (Black Mission), Buissonne, Date, French Paillarde, Grosse Marseillaise, Juane Longue, Magdalen, Napolitaine, Noirmoutier, Pajaudiere, St. Jean, Verdale, Versailles, White Adriatic, White Magdeline (16 varieties)

















Black of San Jose (aka Black Mission)



Gillet Cherry Varieties

· Amoury Precose, April Guigne, Belle de Choissy, Bigarreau de Mai, Bigarreau Grosse de Mezel (aka Bing), Black Tartarian, Early Amaury, Early Black Guigne, Early Lamaurie, Early Purple Guigne, Early Tarascon, Elton's Yellow, Glossy Black, Guigne Marbree, Hative Tarrascon, Late Purple Guigne, May Duke, Montmorency, Napoleon Bigarreau, Precose de Tarascon, Queen Hortense, Rouge Tardíne, Royal Anne, Royal Early, Spa (Belle de Chatenay), Violet Bigarreau, Yellow of Crimea (26 varieties)







Guigne Marbree Cherry

Bígarreau Grosse de Mezel Cherry (aka Bíng Cherry) Columbía Híll, CA

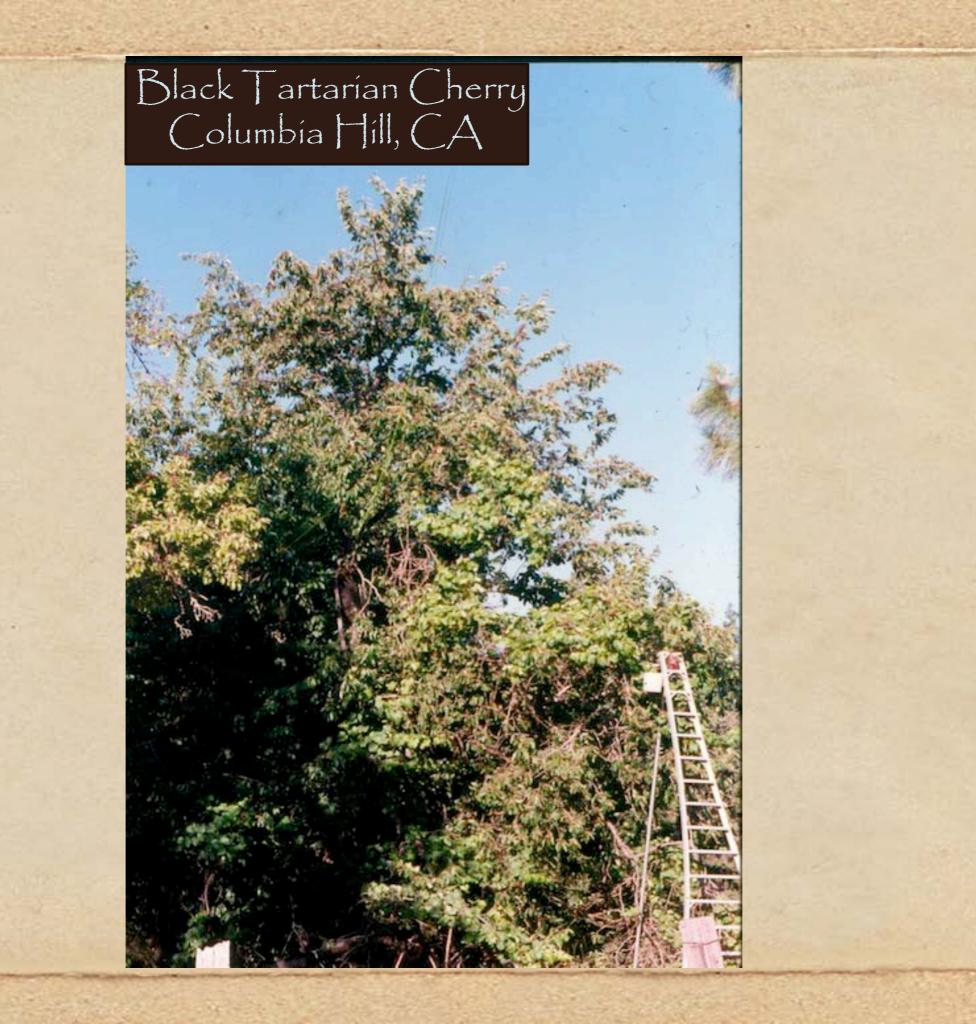




























Gillet Wine Grapes

- Offered 241 varieties of grapes in one catalog!
 Wine varieties included:
- Alcantino, Barbarosa, Black Gamay (aka Napa Gamay), Black Hamburg, Bouschet Alicante, Cabernet Sauvignon, Carignane, Carmenet of Medoc, Catawba, Champagne Varieties, Charbonneau, Chardonnay, Dolcetta, Gamay, Grenache, Malaga, Malbec, Malvoise, Mataro, Menuier, Merlot, Mission...

Gillet Wine Grapes

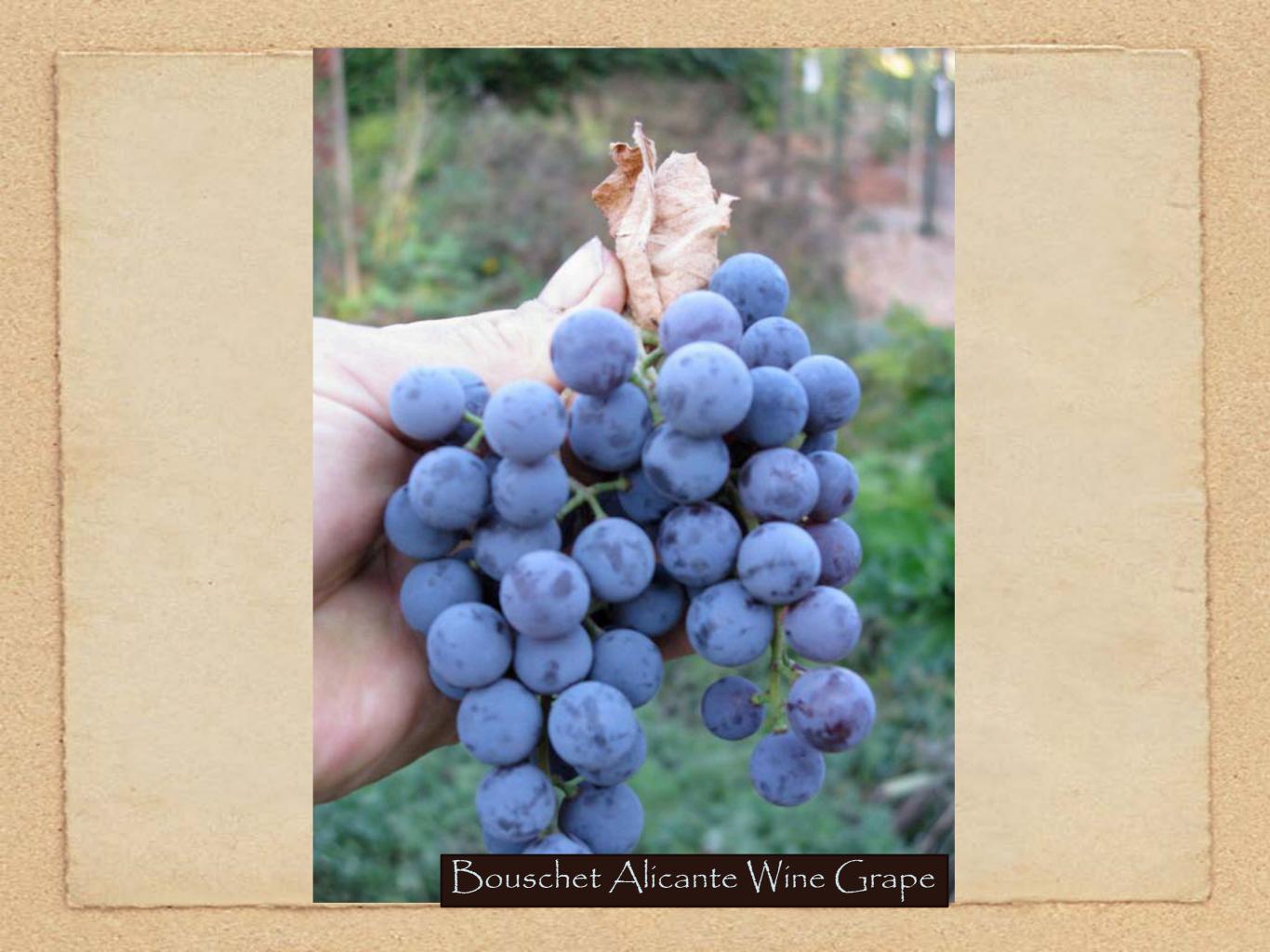
- Muscat (16 varieties), Petite Bouschet, Petite Gamay, Petite Syrah, Pineau of Burgundy, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, Rousanne, Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon, Syrah, Teinturier, Tokay, Vigonier, Zinfandel
- And more than 100 other varieties !

Table and Raisin Grapes

- Barbarossa, Black Corinth Seedless, Black Hamburg, Emperor, Kish Mish (aka Thompson Seedless), Lady Finger, Malvoisie, Muscat of Alexandria, Muscatel, Orange Flowered Muscat, Rose Corinth Seedless (aka Champagne grape), Tokay, White Corinth Seedless, Zante Seedless "Currant"
- And more than 50 other varieties!







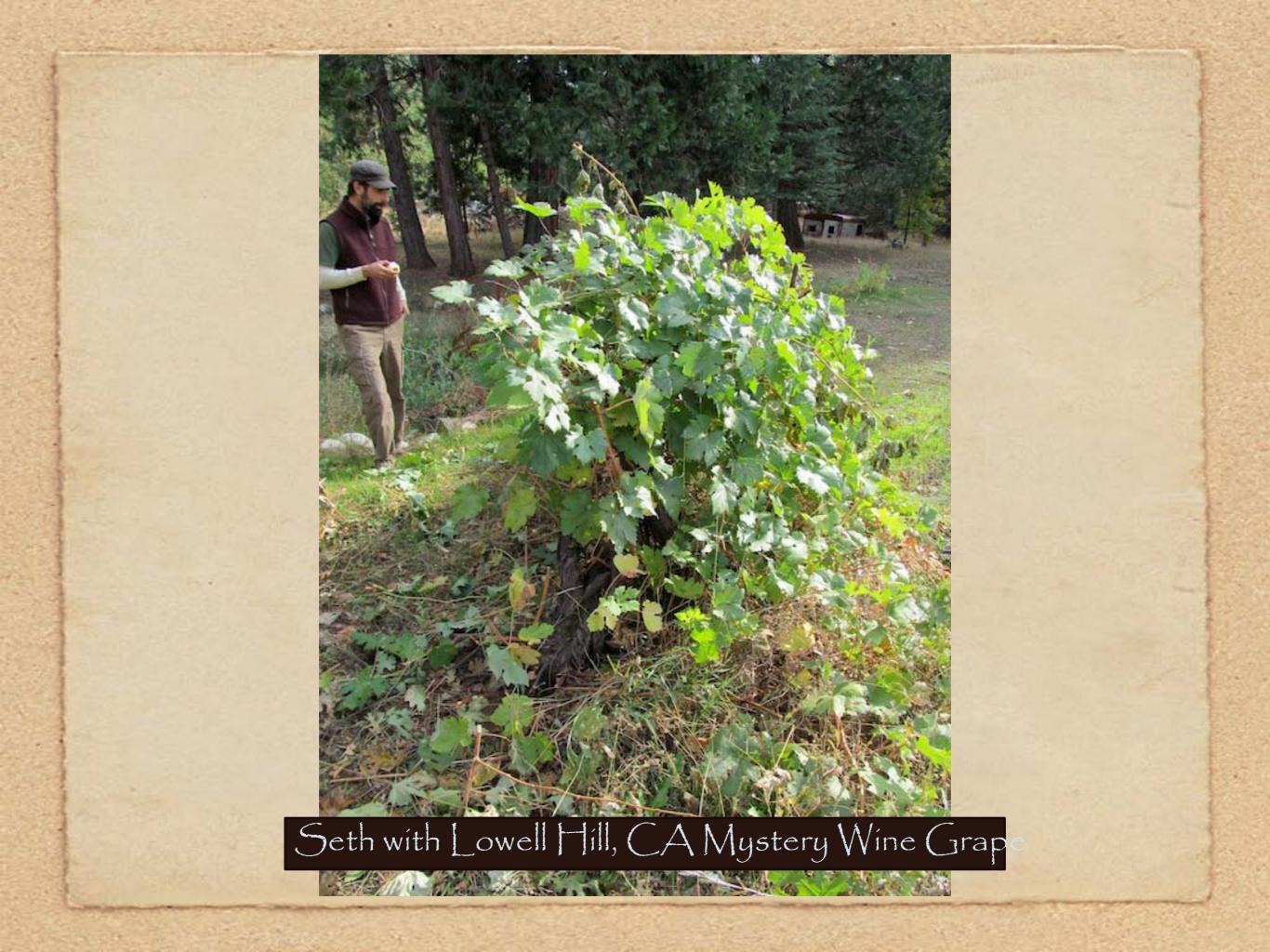










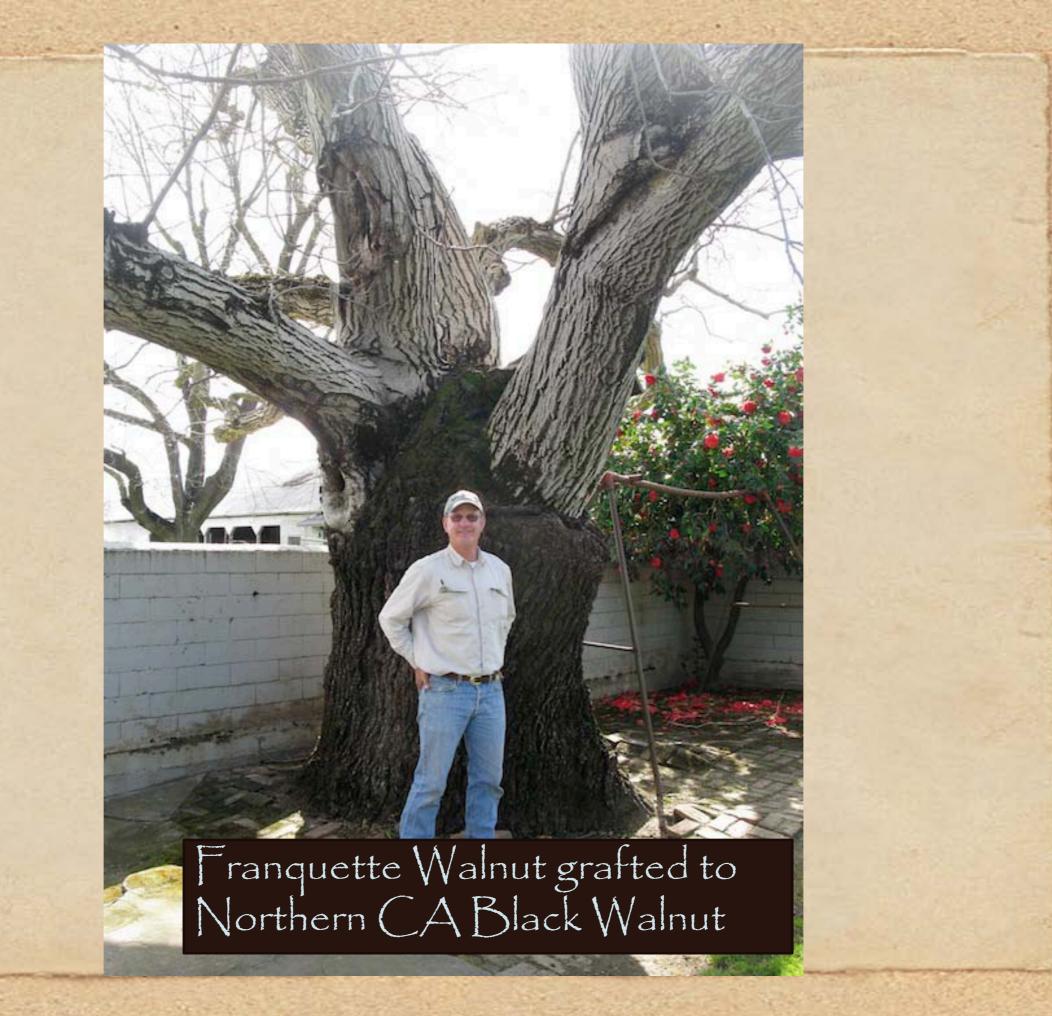




Gillet Walnut Varieties

· Alpine (Wonder of the Alps), Ash Leaved (Lanciniated), Barthere, California Black, California Chabert, California Paper Shell, Chaberte, Cluster, Columbus, de la St. Jon, Eastern Black, Franquette, Galban, Gant (aka Bíjou), Glady (aka Improved Bíjou), Jewelers, Lanfray, Macrocarpa, Mammoth (aka Fertile a Gros), Martín, Mayette, Mesange (aka Paper Shell), Meylan, Monophylla, Parisienne Praeparturiens (Fertile) (6 vars), Parry, Poorman's, Serotina (aka Late Walnut), Vilmorin (aka Cross Bred), Vourey, Weeping (36 varieties)

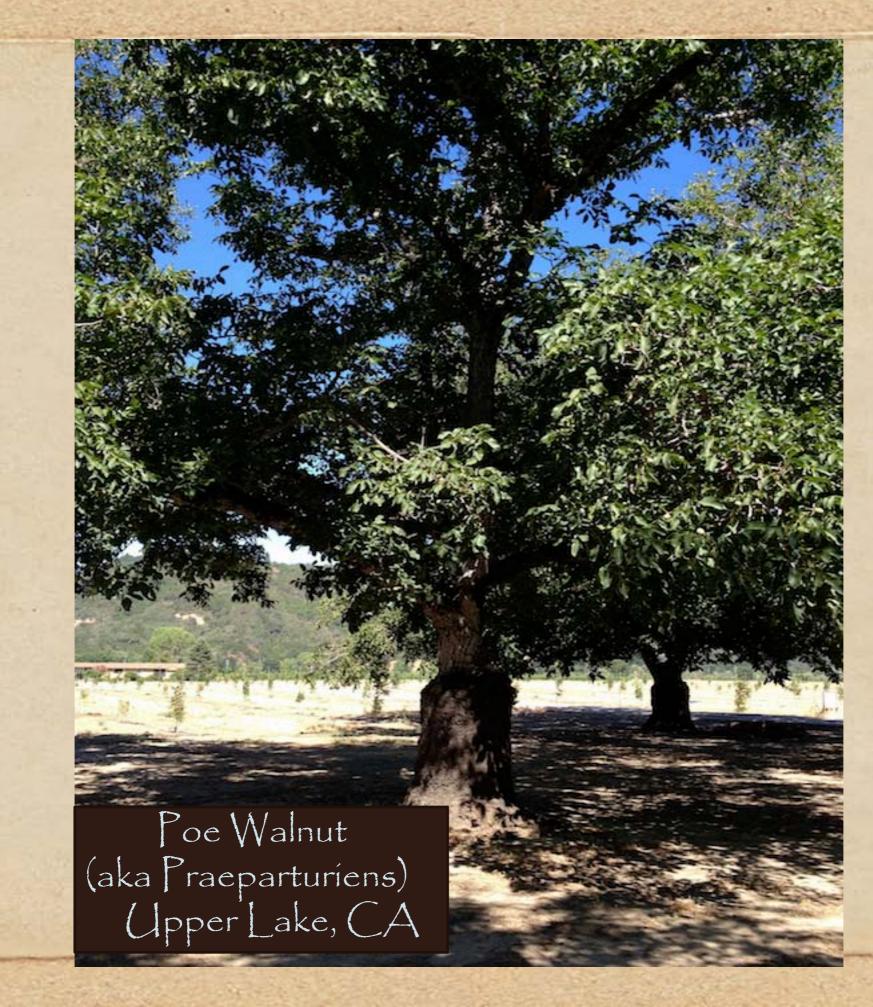












Chaberte Walnut No. San Juan, CA

Chauberte Walnut











Sprouted Walnut Seedling

1885. SUPPLEMENT TO GENERAL CATALOGUE BARREN HILL NURSERIES,

NEVADA CITY.

FELIX GILLET. - - - -PROPRIETOR.

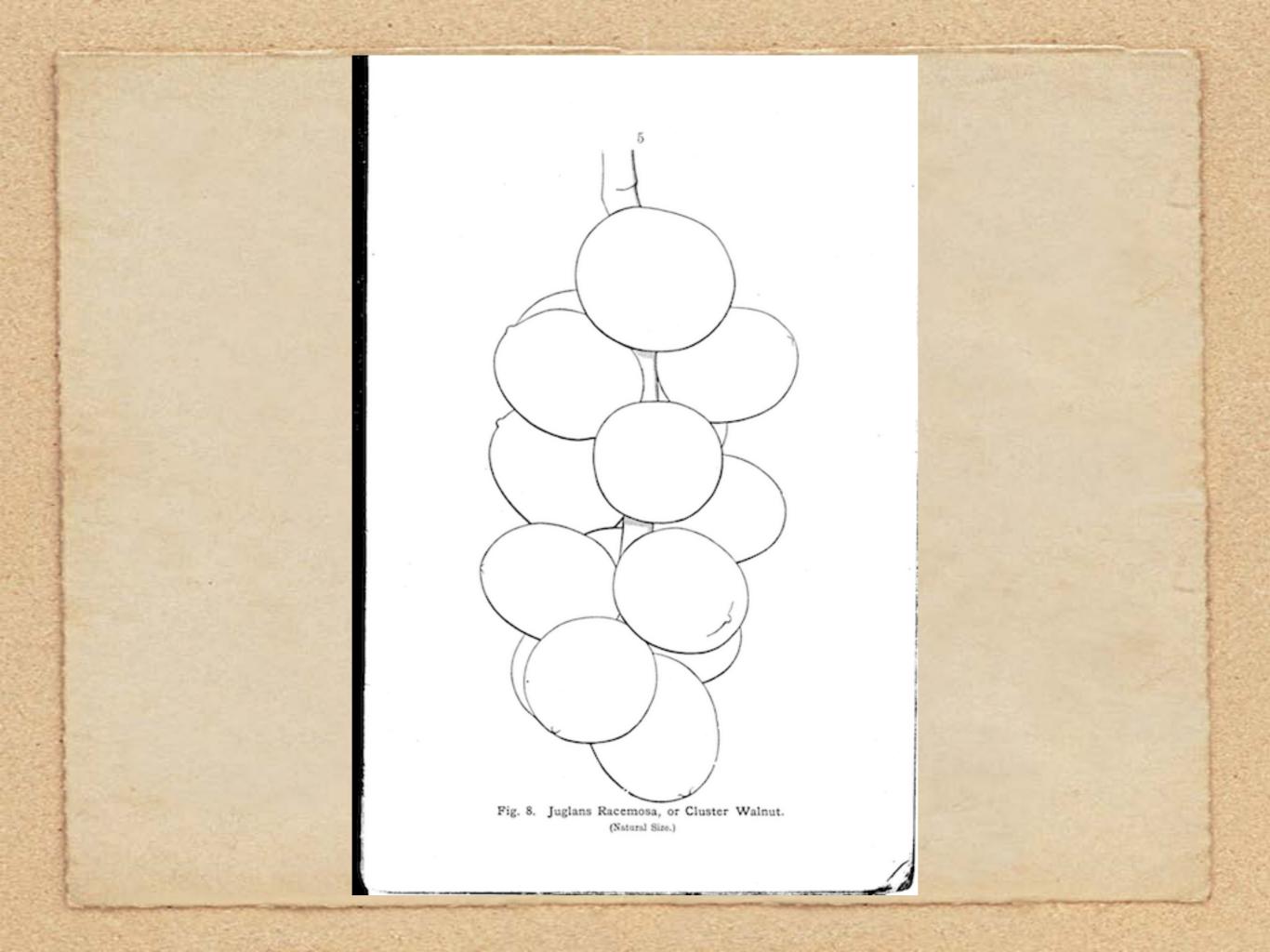
A CHAPTER ON WALNUTS.

Proparturiens or Fertile or Early- | which gave him twenty-three full-deshed, Bearing Walnut .- Since the introduction by us into California, in the winter of 1870-71, of this valuable kind of walnut, we have found it to do still better in this country than in its native land, France. In the latter country the nut grows from small to medium, though very rich; but in California from medium to large. With seedlings, entirely raised here, the nut takes all sorts of shapes, though more commonly a somewhat oval shape, and quite broad at the head, with a full-fleahed, sweet, delicate kernel.

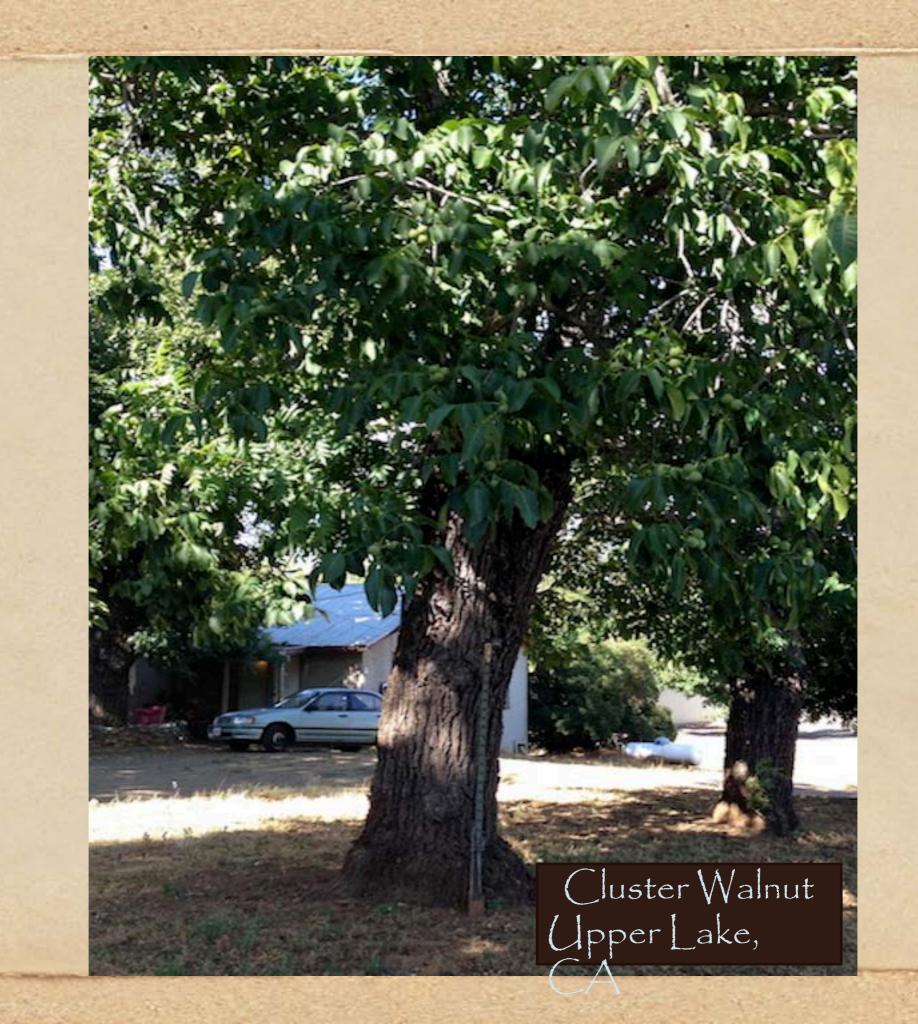
We have upon our place, as showed to visitors, Proparturiens walnuts of two, three and four years in bearing; but will say that the Prosparturiens does not go to "regular bearing," that is, do not grow any staminate buds, or catkins, before any other kinds of walnut, except grafted trees. Such young Proparturiens that bear pistillate blossoms or nuts, with a complete absence of staminate or male blossoms, must have the nuts fertilized by the catkins of larger walnuts in the neighborhood, should they be at a distance of half a mile. The pollen of the Black walnut's blossoms, if carried by the wind in the direction of the little Prosparturisns loaded with nuts, will fecundate the latter without mixing up the kinds. The pollen from a catkin may also be shaken upon the little trees' blossoms, and thus be made to fertilize their nuts, as Mr. Ed. Muller, of Nevada City, did, in the year 1884,

very pretty nuts. People must, therefore, well understand that, as precoclous as the Proparturiens is in bearing, still it does not go to "regular bearing" before it is seven to eight years old, unless planted in very rich soil where it will make a very large growth the first five

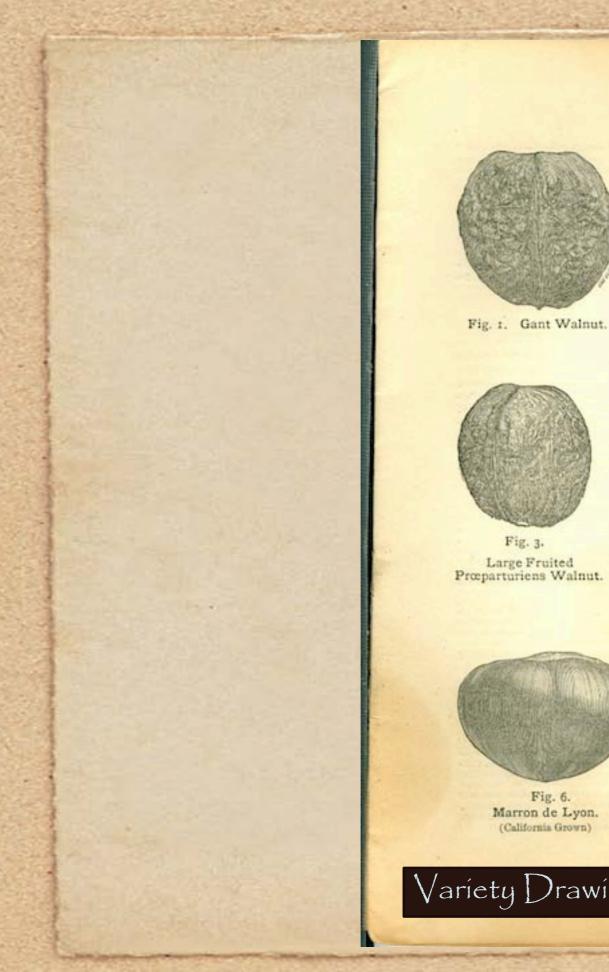
or six years. But this precocity in bearing and its great fertility, is not, by far, the most important characteristic of the Prosparturiens walnut; for we have invariably found that its pistillate buds are fully out at the same time as its staminate buds, which is an immense advantage on the common English walnut, whose staminate blossoms are out and gone before the pistillate ones or nuts have appeared; so that when the latter are out, there is not a solitary catkin on the tree to fertilize the nuts. At least such is the case with the English walnut in Nevada, Placer, Alameda, and other counties in California, and also in Oregon, as we were told lately. In Nevada City and neighborhood, we have twenty-five years old English walnuts, that are yet completely barren, frost or no frost, though full of blossoms every year. So we would call the special attention of the horticultural public to this anomaly and defect of the common kind of English walnut as cultivated on this coast; and it is easy for anybody to ascertain the correctness of those facts at blooming time, wherever there with a little tree obtained from us, and are such sorts of unbearing, barren walnuts.













3

Fig. 2. Cluster Walnut.



Late Prœparturiens Walnut. Large Fruited Prœparturiens Walnut.



Fig. 5. Chalberte Walnut.



Fig. 7. Marron Combale. (California Grown.)

Variety Drawings from Gillet Catalog

Fig. 4.





Gillet Chestnut Varieties

· American, Avant-Chatigne, Bertrand, Chalan Early, Early Marron, Grosse Precose, Horse, Japanese Mammoth, Marron Combale, Marron de Lyon, Marron Pierreville, Marron Precose-Prolifique, Marron d'Quercy (Colossal), Merle, Marron Nouzíllard, Yellow Marron (16 varieties)

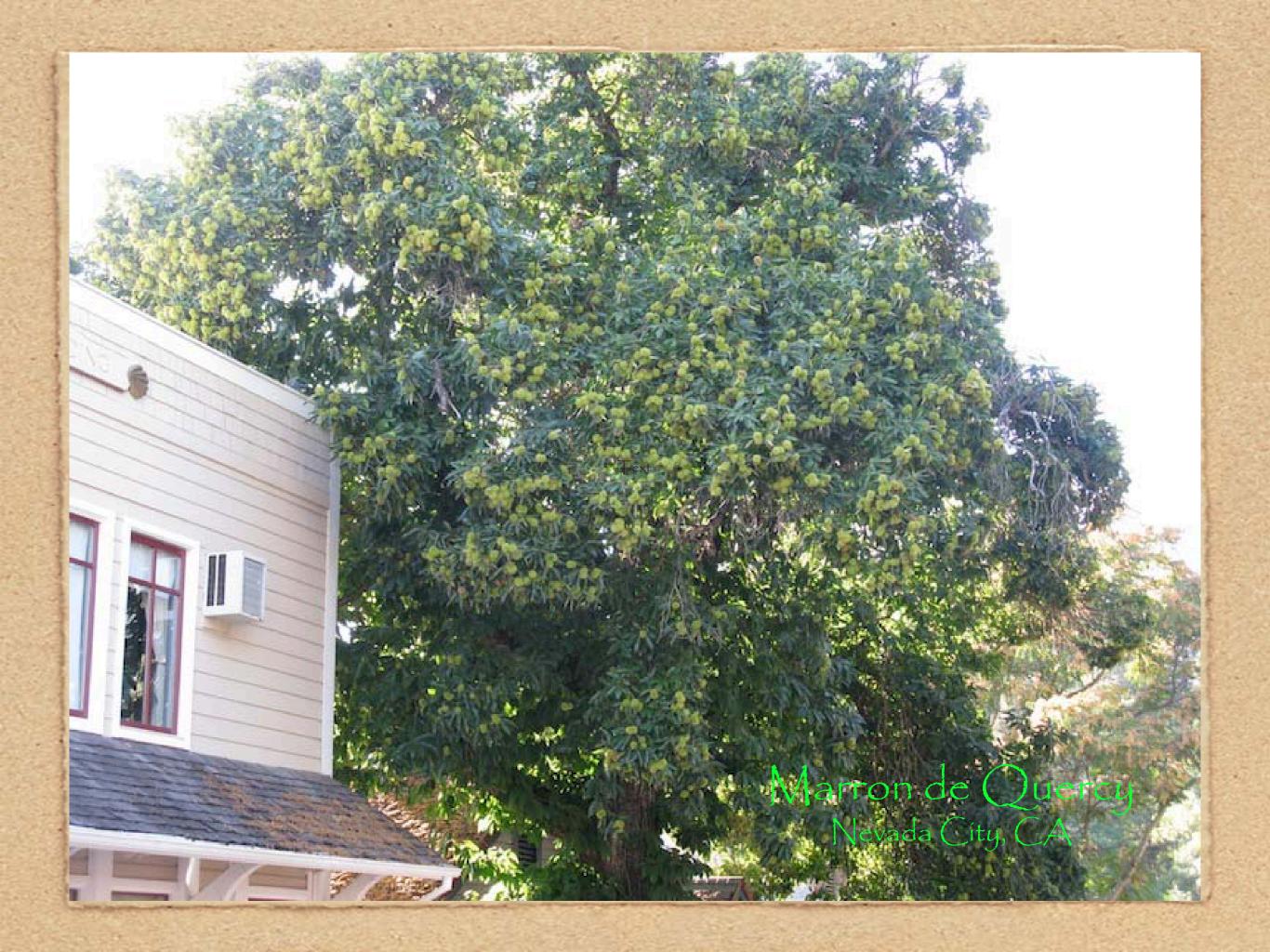


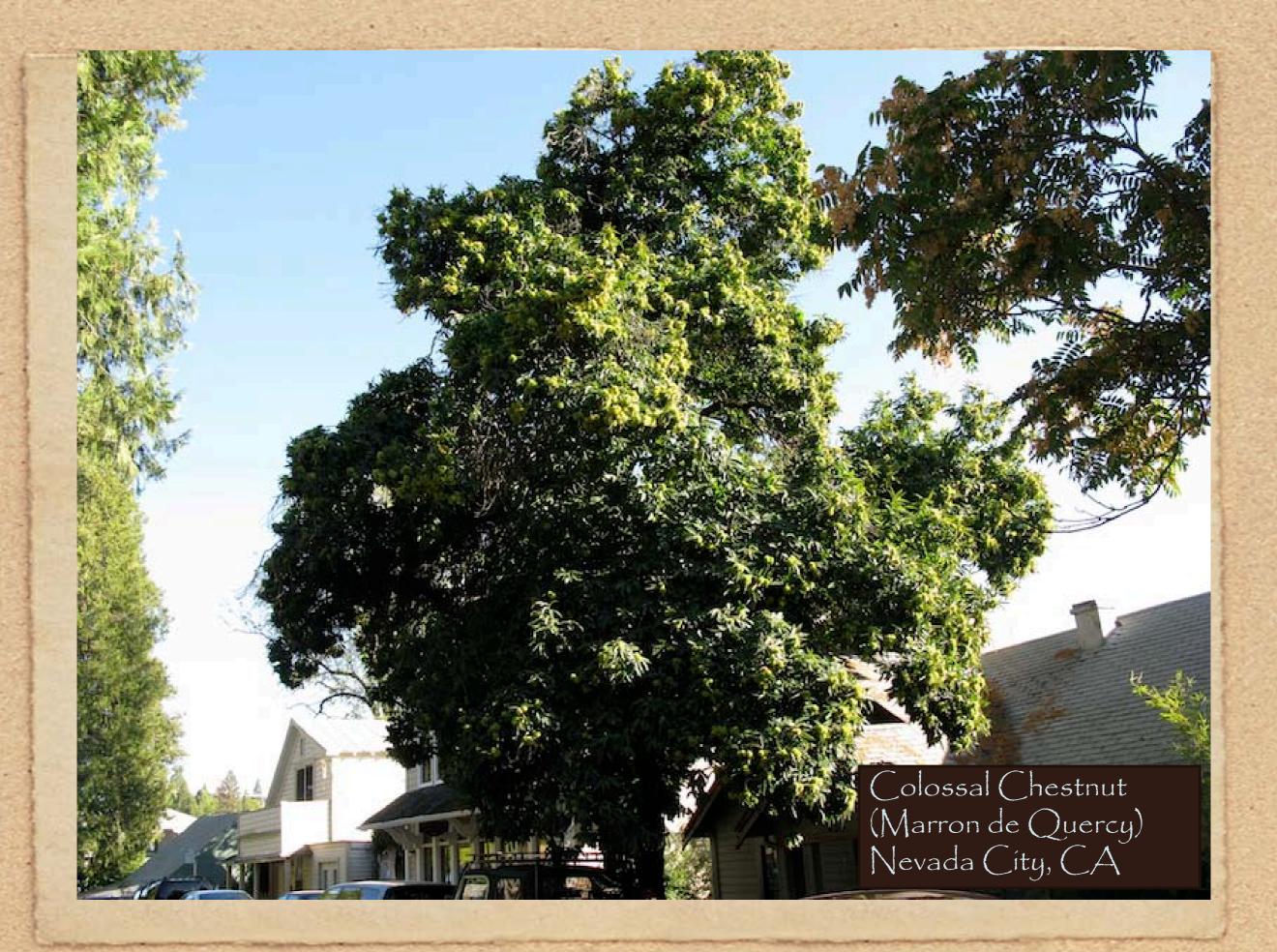
Marron de Lyon



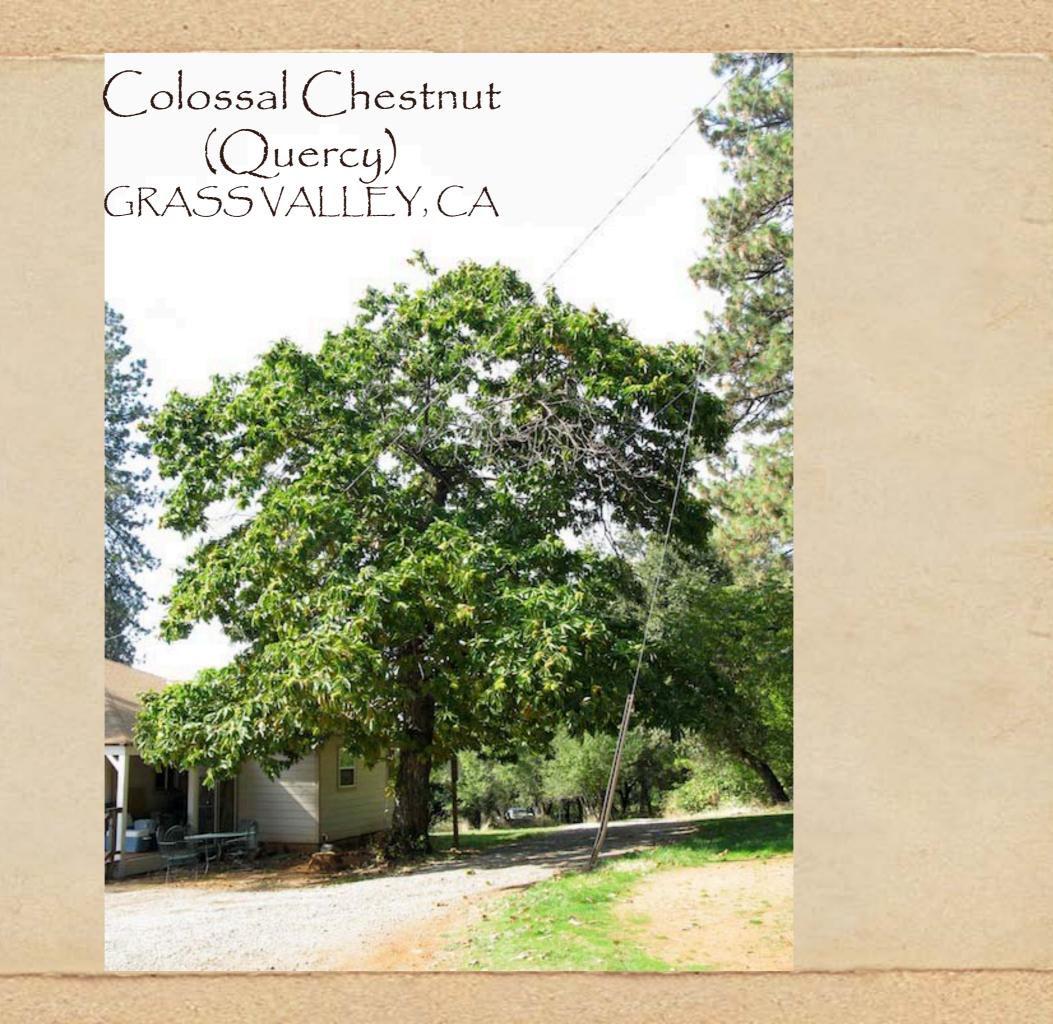
Orígínal "Colossal" Chestnut (Marron de Quercy) on ríght "Nevada" Pollínator on left Nevada Cíty, CA

Marron de Quercy Brownsville, CA

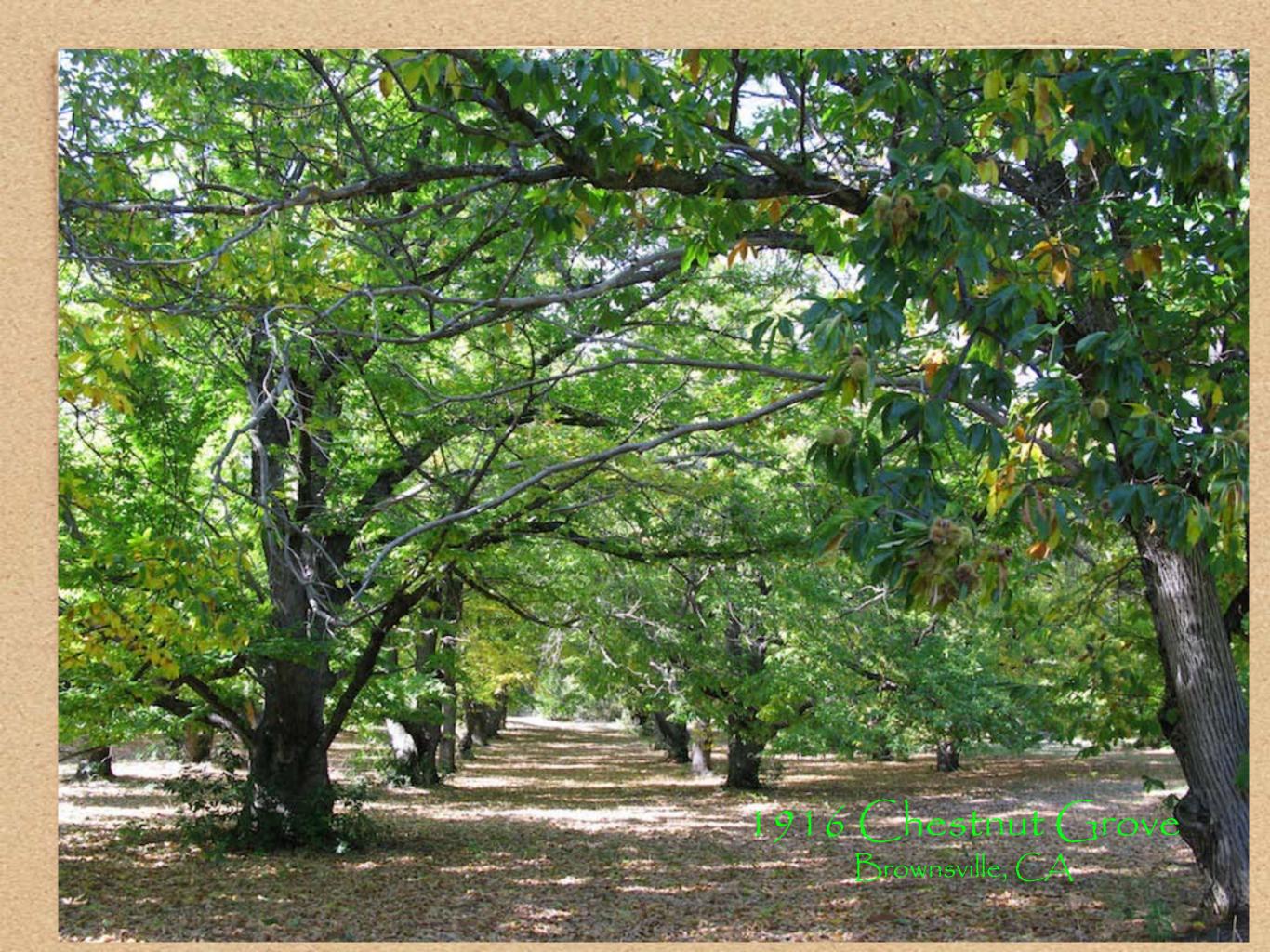
















American Chestnut





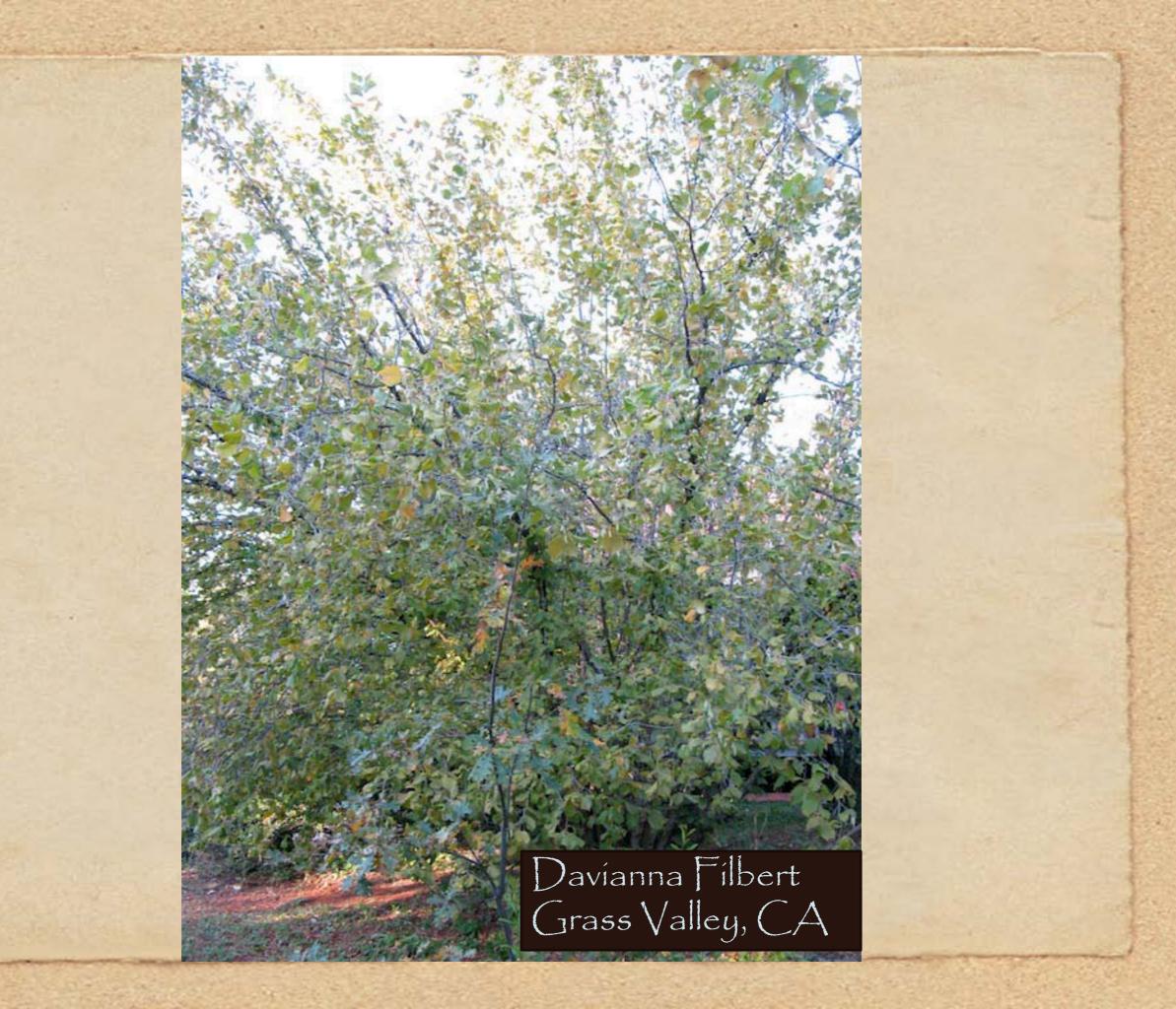
Gillet Filbert Varieties

Aveline Grosse Ronde, Barcelona, Belgium, Brunswick, Bysance, Cluster, Colonel, D'Algiers, Davianna, Du Chilly Cobnut, Emperor, Geante des Halles, Grosse Blanche of England, Grosse of Piedmont, Kentish Cob, Montebello, Noche Lunghe, Nottingham, Purple Leaved Aveline, Red Aveline, Sicily, Weeping, White Aveline (24 varieties)





















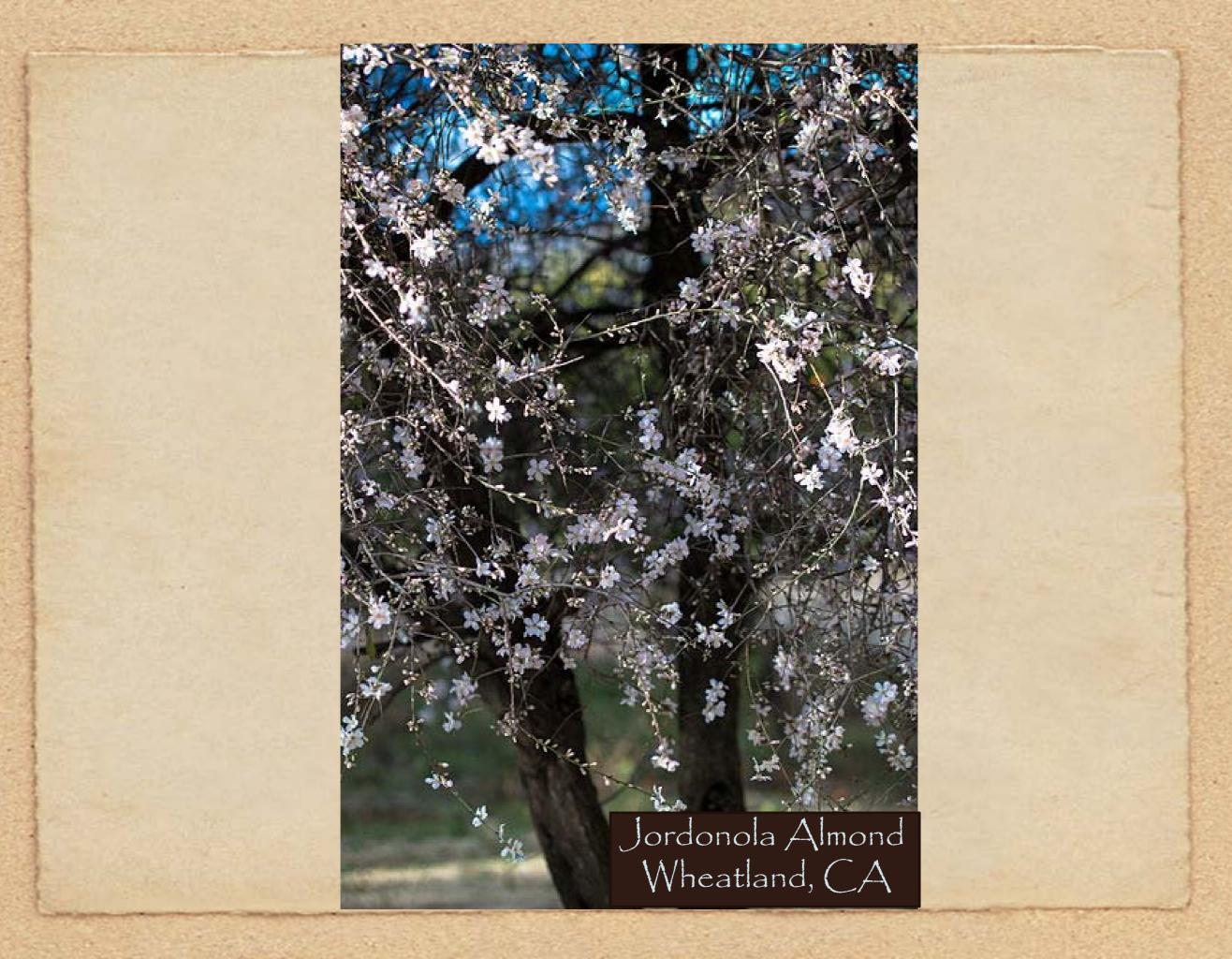
Gillet Almond Varieties

. Drake Seedling, Duchesse (Paper Shell), Eureka, Gross Tendre, Hard Shell, Improved Languedoc, IXL, Jordonola, Languedoc (Soft Shell), Ne Plus (Iltra, Non Pariel, Princess (aka Ladies Thin Shell), Prolífic, Provence, Sultana (Amande Sultane), Texas Prolífic (15 varieties)



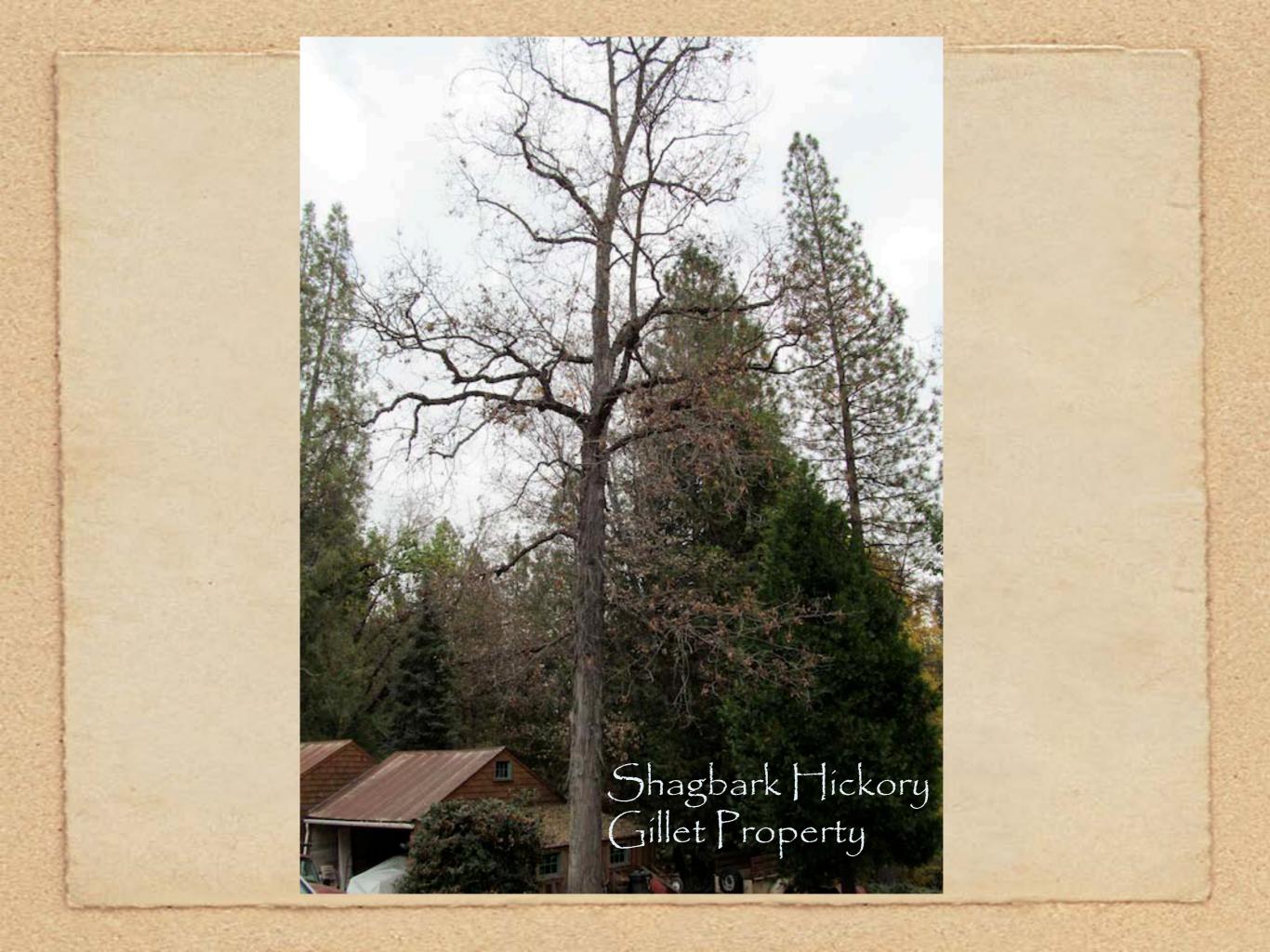
















Gillet Pecan Varieties

- Louisiana
- San Saba
- Texas Paper Shell
- Texas Mammoth



Gillet Prunes

· Alsatian Questche, Black Damas, California D'Ente, Chatency D'Ente, Clairac Mammoth D'Ente (Improved French), Coe's Golden Drop, Dama de Tours, Dame Aubert, German, German Questche, Imperial D' Famuese, Italian Questche, Knight's Green Drying, Loire D'Ente, Mont Barbat D'Ente, Pedigron Rouge, Pedigron Violet, Petite D'Agen, Prune D'Ente (Robe de Sergeant), Prune D'Ente Double, Pyrimol D'Ente, Saint Antone, Saint Catherine

. (23 varieties)



Claírac Mammoth D'Ente (aka Improved French Prune Marysville, CA



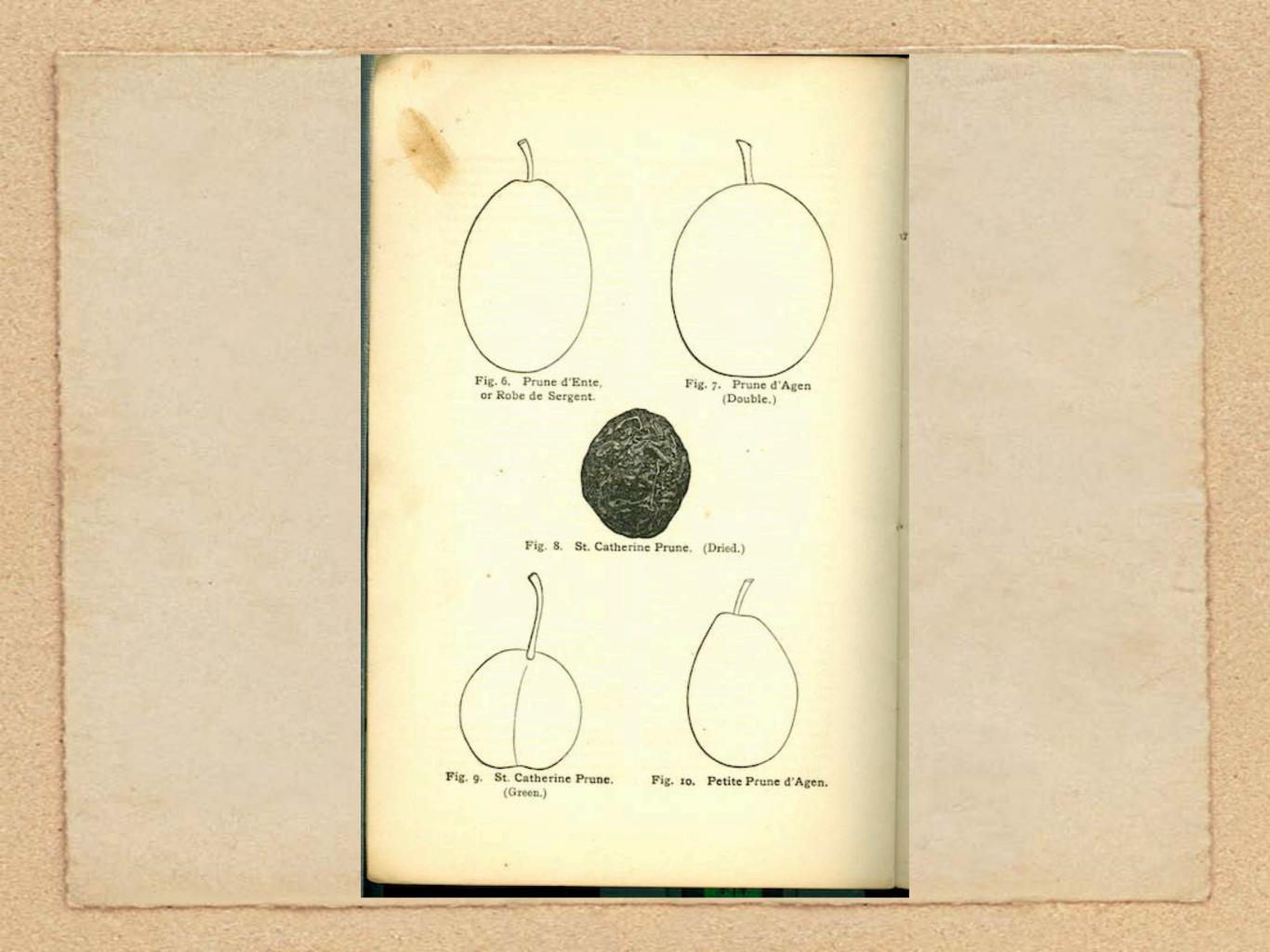


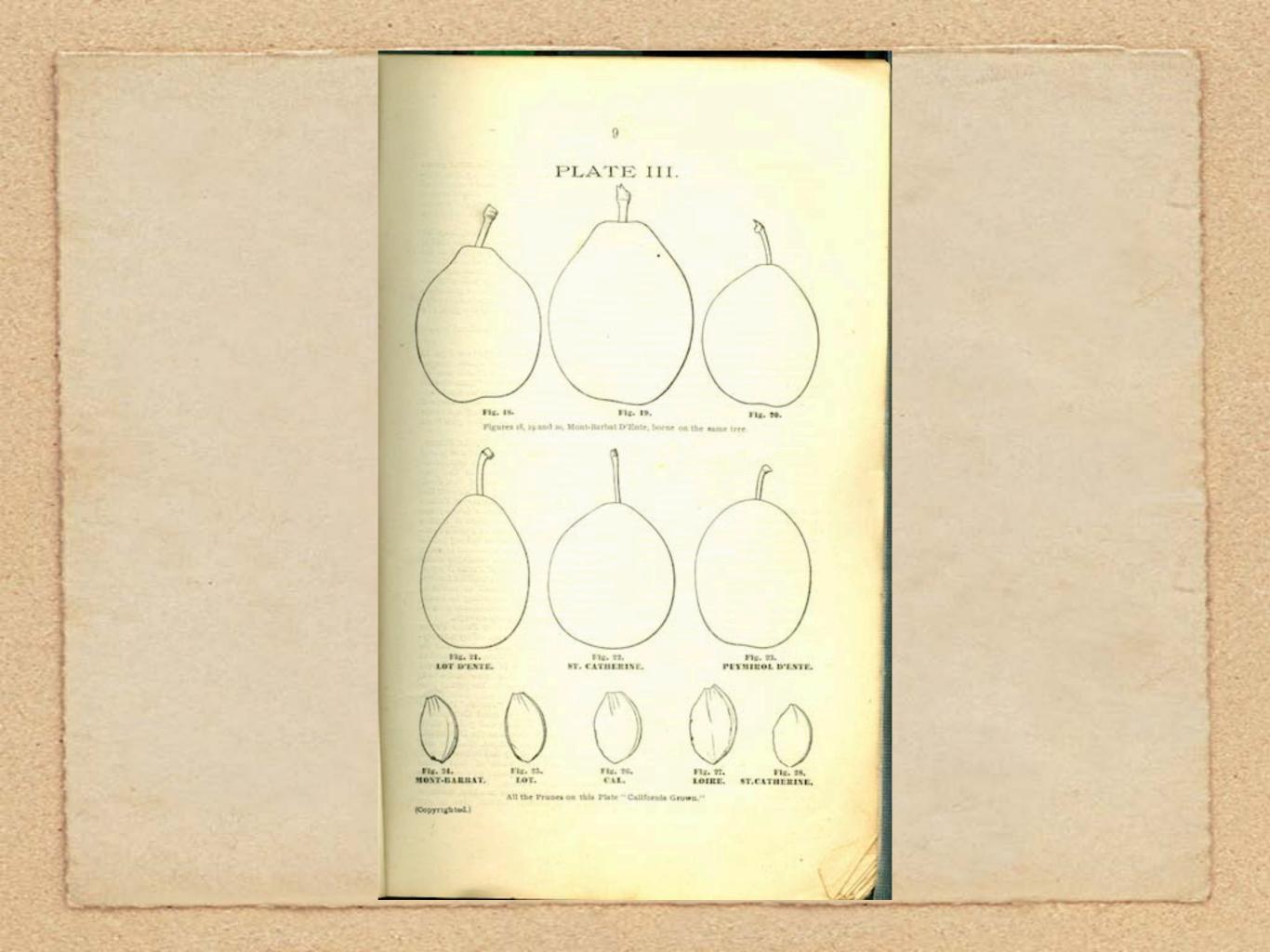
Improved French Prune Clairac Mammoth d'Ente Yuba City, CA

















Gillet Pear Varieties

· Assumption, Bartlett, Bergamotte, Bergamotte Esperen, Beurre Goubault, Beurre Gris, Blanquet le Gros, Bon Chretien (aka Bartlett), Bon Clevetier, Bosc, Beurre Clairgeau, Catillac, Doyenne d'Alencon, Doyenne d'Hiver (Easter Beurre), Duchess d'Anjou, Martín Sec, Passe Colmar, Passe Crassame, Royale d'Hiver, Seckel, Sugar, Summer Doyenne, Winter Nellis

. (22 varieties)

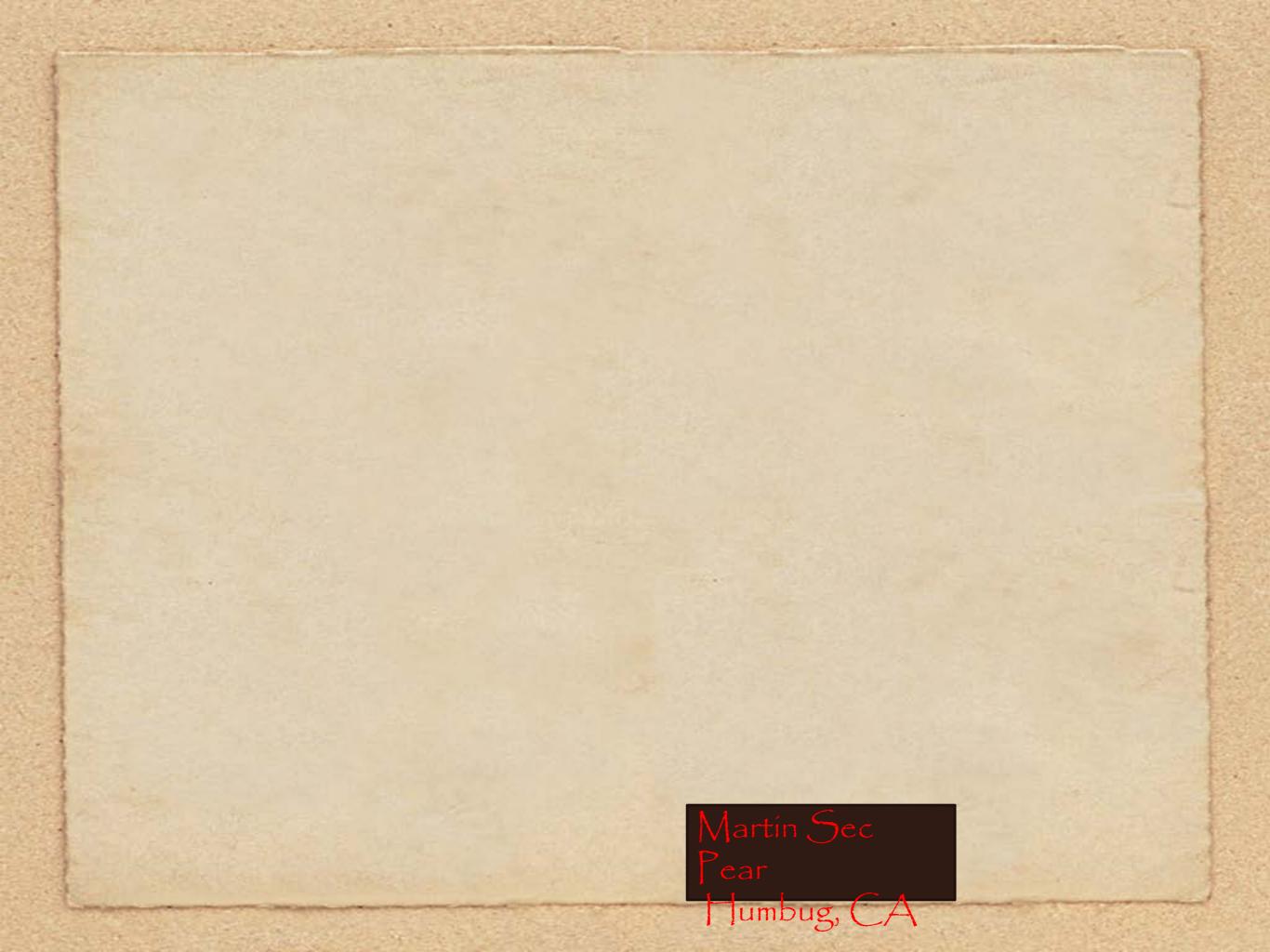


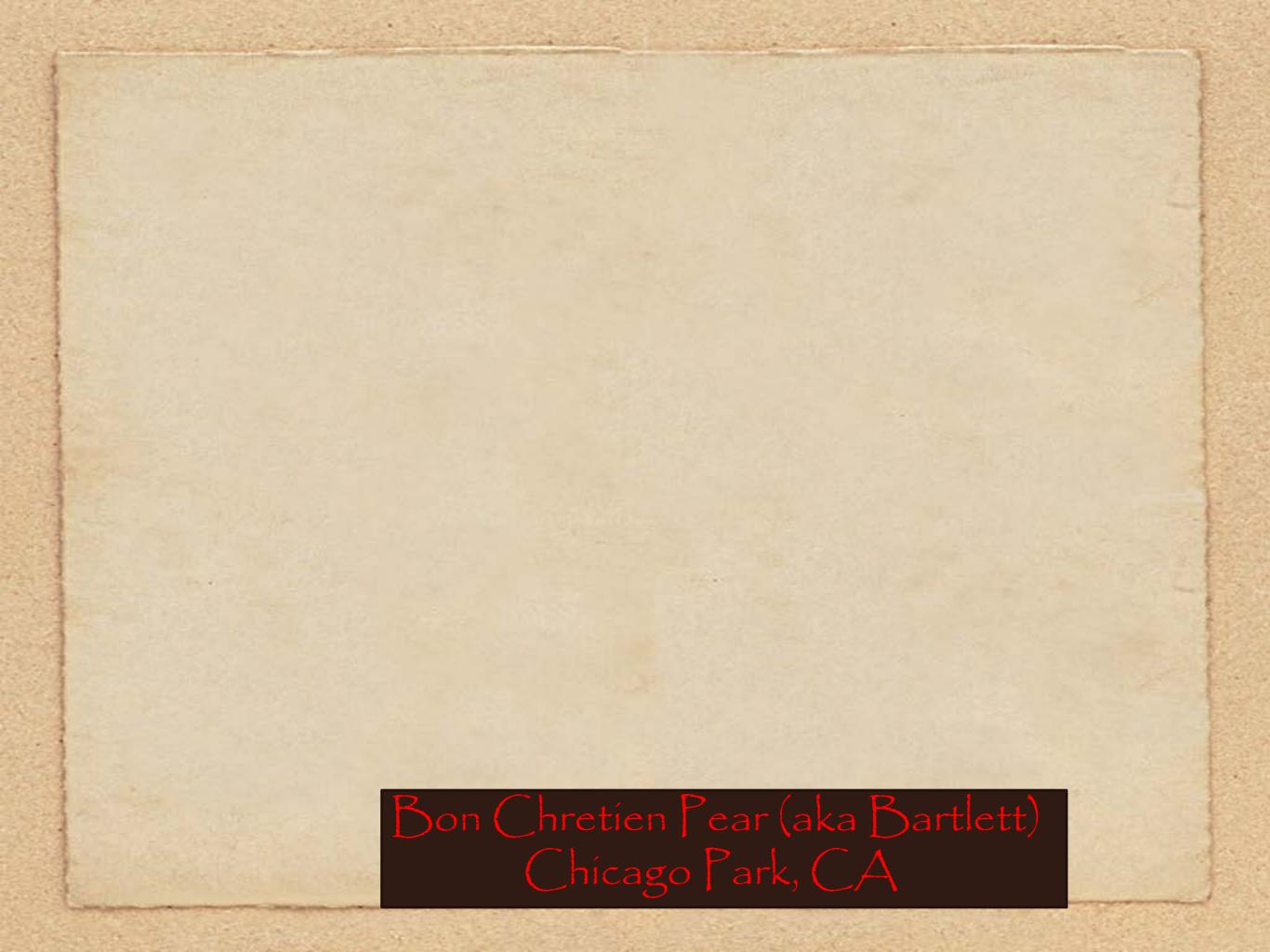
Buerre Clairgeau Pear



Catíllac Pear Buck's Ranch







Rhode Island Greening Apple Graniteville CA

Gillet Apple Varieties

 Calville Blanc, Calville Rouge, Canada Reinette, Fenoville Gris, Golden Reinette, Gros Apí, Igonette, Lady, Newtown Pippin, Pearmain, Petite Api (Lady's Blush), Queen of Reinettes, Red Astrachan, Reinette Franche, Reinette Gris, Rhode Island Greening, Royal Russet, Spitzenburg, Swaar, True Reinette, Van de Veer, White Rambour, Winesap, Winter Rambour, Yellow Bellflower (26 varieties)



Gillet Persimmon Varieties

Diospyros Lotus

- Diospyros Lucida
- . Diospyros Virginiana





Gillet Rose Varieties

 Baronne Prevost, Belle de Baltímore, Belle Lyonaise, Button Hole, Capitaine Frere, Contessa de Morny, Coquette de Blanches, Coquette de Lyon, Duchesse de Nemours, English Sue, Gloire de Margotlin, Glore de Mouessauses, Hermosa, La France, La Niege, Lewison Grove, Manetti, Moss, Queen of Perpetuals, Queen of the Whites, Richard Coeur de Lion (20 varieties)





Gillet Plum Varieties

· Bavay Green Gage, Blue Damson, Blue Gage, Common Green Gage, D'Oulins Purple, Damas de Tours, Diaphane Green Gage, Double Rober, Duane's Purple, Early Yellow, Juane Hative, Mirabelle La Grosse, Monsiuer Juane, Monsiuer Rouge, Petite Mirabelle, Pond's Seedling, Ked Myrobalan, Royale de Tours, Violet Pedrigue, White Green Gage (20 vars)





Gillet Mulberry Varieties

Morettí, Morus Alba,
 Morus Lhoo, Morus Multicaules,
 Morus Nígra (Noír of Spaín),
 Nangasakí (Japoníca),
 of Lombard, Russían

Rose

. (8 varieties)

Gillet Silkworms

French Annual, or Pyreneau
Italian Annual, or Ancone

Gillet Quince Varieties

ConstantínoplePortugal

Gillet Apricot Varieties

Angoumois D'Oulins, Beauge (September), Boulbon, Duclos, Early Gros Rouge, Esperen, Mexico, Mille, Musk Early, Peach of Nancy
(11 varieties)

Gillet Cling Peaches

- . Day's White
- · Royal Gorge
- . Twenty Ounce

Gillet Nectarines

- . New White
- . Orange
- . Purple
- . Violet

Gillet Citrus

- Blidah Mandarin Orange
- Corsica Lemon
- Large Fruited Lemon
- Portugal Orange

Gillet Olive Varieties

Cayon
Oblonga
Provence



Gillet Strawberries

- American Vars: Captain Jack, Colonel Cheney, Curiosity, Downing, French, Greens Prolific Jucunde, Kentucky, Kimberley Pine, Margarte, Metcalf, Monarch of the West, New Domini, New York Scarlet, No. 28, Norman, S.B. Seedling, Seth Boyden, Sterling, Wilson's Albany
- · German: Marshall von Moltke

Gillet Strawberries

 English: Alcott Pineapple, Alice Nicholson, Baron Lynan de Lynich, Beauty, British Sovereign, Cockscomb, Cornish Diamond, Crystal Palace, Duke of Cornwall, Exhibition, Goliath, Princess Dagmar, The Lady, Virginia, Young Wonderful

Gillet Strawberries

· French: Aba-el-Kader, Ananas, Aurelie, Belle Bordelaise, Belle Bretonne, Belle de Nanti, Boisselot, Boisson de Gaillon, Bonne Bouche, Bourguignonne, Carolína Supreme, Docteur Morene, King Henry, La Bicolore, La Petite Marie, Matador, Mithridates, Red Bush Alpine, Rubies

- · Dutch: Gloire de Zuidwyn
- . Total Strawberry Varieties: 34

Gillet Publications

- Chestnut Culture, Chestnut Propagation, Filbert Culture, Fragariculture (Strawberries), Prune Culture, Prune Propagation, Sericulture (Mulberries and Silkworm), Walnut Culture, Walnut Propagation
- · Numerous Articles in Agriculture Periodicals
- · Numerous Articles in CADept of Horticulture

Gillet Raspberries

- Cuthbert
- . French Everbearing

Gillet Blackberries

- . Kittatiny
- Lawton
- . Wilsons Early

Currant & Gooseberries Varieties

Currants: Cherry, Common Black, Fays Prolífic, Imperial Red, Imperial White
Gooseberries: 64 varieties !

Other Crops from Gillet

 Acacia (5 vars), Artichoke, Bamboo, Butternut, CA Black Walnut, CA Tiger and White Lily, Dogwood, Eastern Black Walnut, Hawthorn (3 vars), Hickory Nut, Holly, Laurel, Locust (5 vars), Medlar, Pecan, Poplar, Redwood, Rhubarb, Sorbus

Felix Gillet

- Introduced and bred hundreds of successful varieties, many still in commercial production in California
 Created the agriculture industries that
 - make Californía and the Pacífic Northwest famous
- Educated farmers in growing techniques
 Is the Father of West Coast perennial agriculture

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