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Wildlife Research and Management Leaflet BS-46

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FRUITS ATTRACTIVE TO BIRDS - GREAT BASIN STATES REGION No. 6

[Utah and Nevada]

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Contents

	Pa	200
Regions for which leaflets on fruits attractive to birds are available		_
Introduction		3
Table 1Groups of fleshy fruits most attractive to birds throughout the United States		4
Table 2.—Generally distributed native fruits of Utah and Nevada for which satisfactory data on fruiting seasons are available		8
Table 3Native fruits of Utah and Nevada for which less satisfactory data on fruiting seasons are available		8
Table 4.—Extralimital fruits that have been recommended for Utah and Nevada		9
Literature		9

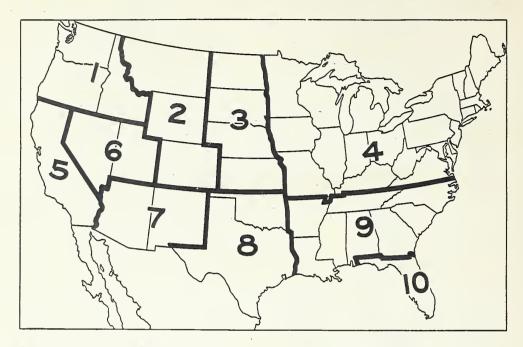


FIGURE 1.--Map of the United States, showing the 10 regions used in presenting information on fruits attractive to birds.

As an aid in requesting leaflets, it should be noted that No. BS-41 is for region 1; RS-42, for region 2, etc., with BS-50 for region 10.

INTRODUCTION

The Great Basin is an elevated region between the Wasatch and Sierra Nevada Mountains that has no drainage to the ocean. It includes most of Nevada, about a third of Utah, and parts of California, Idaho, Wyoming, and Oregon. For the purposes of this leaflet the scope of the term is limited to Utah and Nevada, but the fruits recommended no doubt are especially suitable for parts of the Great Basin lying in neighboring States.

Table I shows groups of fleshy fruits most attractive to birds throughout the United States and lists desirable kinds of birds most fond of the fruit. No barberries, currants, or buckthorns are listed, because they harbor rusts destructive to plants of economic importance. Junivers are in almost the same category, as they serve as alternate hosts for apple rust, but there is no reason why they cannot be used in districts where apples are not commercially grown, as they are among the most valuable plants for wildlife. Omitted also are plants poisonous to man on contact, as poison ivy and poison sumac, as well as various kinds dangerously poisonous to domestic animals, as yews, wild cherries, and nightshades, in spite of the fact that wild cherries are greatly relished by birds. Browsing animals are known to have been killed by feeding on the leaves of wild cherries but do not seem to be so seriously affected by those of plums. Certain plants included among fleshy fruit bearers in previous publications have been transferred to the list of seed producers, hence do not appear in the present series of leaflets. These include magnolia (Magnolia), bittersweet (Celastrus), and burningbush (Euonymus).

It should be noted that the fruit-bearing seasons recorded, being collected from varied sources, tend to be maxima. As a rule they are not likely to be realized or even approached in a single locality unless numerous specimens of a given species are present and so distributed in sun and shade as to favor both early and late fruiting.

The word "extralimital" as here used in the heading of table 4 covers plants from other States or regions of the United States as well as wholly introduced, exotic, or foreign plants.

TABLE 1. - Groups of fleshy fruits most attractive to birds throughout the United States

Name of fruit		Species of birds known to eat the fruit		
Common	Generic	Num ₂ /	Desirable kinds most fond of the fruit	
Juniper; redcedar3/	Juniperus	50	Flicker, mockingbird, robin, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, myrtle warbler, evening and pine grosbeaks, purple finch.	
Greenbrier	Smilax	43	Mockingbird, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, hermit thrush, cardinal.	
Bayberry	Myrica	85	Bobwhite, flicker, downy woodpecker, eastern phoebe, tree swallow, black- capped chickadee, Carolina wren, cat- bird, brown thrasher, hermit thrush, eastern bluebird, white-eyed vireo, myrtle warbler, meadowlark, towhee.	
Hackberry	Celtis	47	Flicker, yellow-bellied sapsucker, mockingbird, brown thrasher, robin, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, cardinal.	
Mulberry	Morus	59	Yellow-billed cuckoo, red-bellied, red- headed, and downy woodpeckers, eastern kingbird, mockingbird, catbird, robin, wood thrush, cedar waxwing, red-eyed vireo, yellow warbler, orchard and Baltimore orioles, scarlet tanager, cardinal, purple finch.	
Pokeberry	Phytolacca	52	Mourning dove, flicker, eastern kingbird, mockingbird, catbird, robin, hermit, olive-backed, and gray-cheeked thrushes, eastern bluebird, cardinal.	
Spicebush	Benzoin	17	Eastern kingbird, wood thrush, veery, red-eyed vireo.	
Sassafras	Sassafras	18	Bobwhite, eastern kingbird, catbird, robin, veery, red-eyed vireo.	
Strawberry	Fragaria	52	Catbird, brown thrasher, robin, wood thrush, towhee.	

TABLE 1. - Groups of fleshy fruits most attractive to birds throughout the

United States--Continued

Name of	fruit	Spe	Species of birds known to eat the fruit		
Common	Generic	: Num-	Desirable kinds most fond of the fruit		
Raspberry, black- berry	Rubus	: 146	Ruffed grouse, bobwhite, flicker, red- headed woodpecker, eastern kingbird, tufted titmouse, wren tit, mockingbird, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, wood and olive-backed thrushes, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, red-eyed vireo, orchard and Baltimore orioles, cardinal, rose- breasted, black-headed, and pine grosbeaks, red-eyed, spurred, and California towhees, white-throated, fox, and song sparrows.		
Rose	Rosa	38	Ruffed and sharp-tailed grouse, prairie chicken, bobwhite.		
Mountain-ash	Sorbus	: 13	Red-headed woodpecker, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, Bohemian and cedar waxwings, Baltimore oriole, evening and pine grosbeaks.		
Chokeberry	: Aronia	21	Brown thrasher, meadowlark.		
Hawthorn	Crataegus	39	: Ruffed grouse, robin, purple finch, pine grosbeak.		
Apple	Malus	. 43	Ruffed grouse, ring-necked pheasant, mockingbird, robin, cedar waxwing, purple finch, pine grosbeak, red crossbill.		
Juneberry	: Amelanchier .	42	Flicker, catbird, robin, hermit thrush, veery, cedar waxwing, Baltimore oriole.		
Suma c 4/	Rhus	97	Ruffed grouse, bobwhite, valley quail, northern and red-shafted flickers, red-bellied and downy woodpeckers, phoebe, black-capped and Carolina chickadees, wren tit, Carolina wren, mockingbird, catbird, brown and California thrashers, robin, hermit thrush, eastern bluebird, white-eyed vireo, towhee, Audubon's warbler, goldfinch, golden-crowned sparrow.		
Pepperberry	Schinus	12	Robin, varied and hermit thrushes, cedar waxwing, phainopepla.		

TABLE 1. - Groups of fleshy fruits most attractive to birds throughout the
United States--Continued

	OHIOU	500000		
Name of f	Name of fruit Species of birds known to eat the fruit			
Common	Generic	Num- ber	Desirable kinds most fond of the fruit	
Holly	Ilex	48	Ruffed grouse, bobwhite, valley quail, flicker, yellow-bellied sapsucker, mockingbird, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, hermit thrush, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing.	
Supplejack	Berchemia:	15	Mockingbird, robin.	
Grape	Vitis	87	Ruffed grouse, bobwhite, northern and red-shafted flickers, pileated and red-bellied woodpeckers, eastern kingbird, mockingbird, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, wood thrush, veery, eastern and western bluebirds, cedar waxwing, cardinal.	
Virginia creeper .	Ampelopsis	38	Flicker, red-bellied and red-headed wood- pekkers, yellow-bellied sapsucker, tufted titmouse, mockingbird, brown thrasher, robin, hermit, olive-backed, and gray-cheeked thrushes, eastern blue- bird, red-eyed vireo, scarlet tanager, evening grosbeak, purple finch.	
Buffaloberry	Shepherdia :	18	Sharp-tailed grouse, pine grosbeak.	
Silverberry, Rus- sian olive, etc.	Elaeagnus	5/	Prairie chicken, sharp-tailed grouse, catbird, robin, cedar waxwing.	
Wild-sarsaparilla	Aralia	16	Bobwhite, robin.	
Dogwood	Cornus	93	Ruffed grouse, bobwhite, northern and red-shafted flickers, downy woodpecker, eastern kingbird, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, wood, hermit, olive-backed, and gray-cheeked thrushes, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, redeyed and warbling vireos, cardinal, evening and pine grosbeaks, purple finch, white-throated and song sparrows.	
Sourgum, tupelo :	Nyssa	39	Flicker, robin, olive-backed and gray- cheeked thrushes, cedar waxwing, purple finch.	
Crowberry	Empetrum	40	Pine grosbeak, snow bunting.	
Bearberry, manza- nita	Arctostaphylos:	34	Dusky and ruffed grouse, valley and mountain quail, wren tit, fox sparrow.	

-6-

TABLE 1. - Groups of fleshy fruits most attractive to birds throughout the United States--Continued

Name of fruit		Species of birds known to eat the fruit		
Common	Conomia	Num- ber	Desirable kinds most fond of the fruit	
Wintergreen	Gaultheria	10	Ruffed grouse, wren tit.	
Huckleberry	Gaylussacia .	46	: Robin, pine grosbeak, towhee.	
Blueberry	Vaccinium	;	Ruffed grouse, valley quail, eastern kingbird, black-capped chickadee, tufted titmouse, catbird; brown thrasher, robin, hermit thrush, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, orchard oriole, pine grosbeak, towhee.	
Beautyberry	Callicarpa .	11	Mockingbird, brown thrasher.	
Partridgeberry	Mitchella	10	: Ruffed grouse.	
Elderberry	Sambucus		Valley quail, flicker, red-headed wood- pecker, eastern and Arkansas kingbirds, black phoebe, wren tit, mockingbird, catbird, brown and California thrashers, robin, olive-backed thrush, eastern and western bluebirds, phainopepla, red- eyed vireo, rose-breasted and black- headed grosbeaks, California towhee, white-crowned sparrow.	
Snowberry, coral- berry	Symphoricarpos:	33	Sharp-tailed grouse, varied thrush, evening and pine grosbeaks.	
Blackhaw, cran-berrybush	Viburnum	35	Ruffed grouse, yellow-billed cuckoo, flicker, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, rose- breasted grosbeak, purple finch.	
Honeysuckle	Lonicera	18	Bobwhite, catbird, brown thrasher, robin, hermit thrush, pine grosbeak, white-throated sparrow.	

Barberries (Berberis), buckthorns (Rhammus), and currants (Ribes) are omitted because they serve as alternate hosts of rusts, attacking wheat, oats, and white pine, respectively. Yews (Taxus), wild cherries (Prunus), and nightshades (Solanum) also are omitted as being dangerous stock poisoning plants.

^{2/} When 10 or more.

^{3/} Carries apple rust; should not be planted near valuable orchards.

⁴ Only nonpoisonous species of sumac are considered.

^{5/} Data given are based entirely on field observations; total number of birds eating the various species of Elaeagnus unknown.

TABLE 2. = Generally distributed native fruits of Utah and Nevada for which satisfactory data on fruiting seasons are available

Common name	Scientific name	Fruiting season
Juniper Do. Do. Do. Hackberry Strawberry Whitebark raspberry Wild rose Do. Serviceberry River hawthorn Mountain-ash Squaw-apple Wild plum Skunk-bush Sunac Silver buffaloberry Russet buffaloberry Red-osier Bearberry	Juniperus scopulorum Juniperus utahensis Juniperus occidentalis Juniperus monosperma Celtis douglasii Fragaria glauca Rubus leucodermis Rosa fendleri Rosa woodsii Amelanchier alnifolia Crataegus rivularis Sorbus scopulina Peraphyllum ramosissimum Prunus emarginata Rhus trilobata Rhus utahensis Shepherdia argentea Shepherdia canadensis Cornus stolonifera Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	All year Do. Do. Do. Do. Early July to late December. July Mid-July to early October. All year. Do. Early June to early August. Mid-July to late November. Late July to late December. Mid-June to mid-August. Early August to late September. All year. Do. Mid-July to early August. Do. Mid-July to late August. All year.
Bearberry	: Arctostaphylos uva-ursi : Arctostaphylos nevadensis:	All year. Mid-July to late October.
Blue elderberry Red elderberry Snowberry	: Sambucus microbotrys :	Early August to early October. Early July to late August. Late July to late December. Late May to late August.

TABLE 3. - Native fruits of Utah and Nevada for which less satisfactory data on fruiting seasons are available

Common name	Scientific name	Remarks
Strawberry :	Fragaria americana	
Do : Do :	Fragaria platypetala Fragaria truncata	
Thimbleberry :	Rubus parviflorus	•
Arizona red raspbarry:	Rubus arizonicus	•
Western red rambeary:	Rubus melanolasius	:
	Rosa gymnocarpa	
Serviceberry :	Amelanchier oreophila .	:
	Amelanchier polycarpa .	
Do :	Amelanchier utahensis .	:
Black hawthorn :	Crataegus douglasii	:
Sumac :	Rhus cismontana	:
Canyon grame :	Vitis arizonica	: Southern Utah.

TABLE 3. - Native fruits of Utah and Nevada for which less satisfactory data on fruiting seasons are available -- Continued

TABLE 4. - Extralimital fruits that have been recommended for Utah and Nevada

Common name	Scientific name	
	:	
Irish juniper	: Juniperus communis var	hibernica.
Swedish juniper	: Juniperus communis var	suecica.
Russian mulberry	: Morus alba tatarica.	
Mountain⊶ash	: Sorbus americana.	
Do	: Sorbus aucuparia.	
Hawthorn	: Crataegus crusgalli.	
Do	: Crataegus macracantha.	
Flowering crab	: Males floribunda.	
Hall crab	: Malus halliana.	
Toringo crab		
	: Elaeagnus angustifolia.	
Chinaberry		
	: Cornus stolonifera var.	aurea.
	: Ligustrum ovalifolium.	

LITERATURE

A publication of interest in connection with fruits for the Great Basin States is:

Flora of Utah and Nevada, by Ivar Tidestrom. Contributions from the U.S. National Herbarium 25, 665 pp., 15 pls., 1925. Published by the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.