GINKGO BILOBA

G. biloba. Tyler Arboretum, June 2005. One of the great old plants in the eastern US and very likely the largest Ginkgo outside of Asia. This tree is over 150 years old and is part of the Arboretum that the Painter brothers began in 1825. It was measured at 106 feet tall x 22' 4" in 1980. "The Painter Arboretum" subsection at Tyler also includes the largest Cedrus libani in the New World.
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA USA. June 2006. This grand old plant is near the old Lewis Ginter homestead and is roughly a century old. Of many old Ginkgos I know, this seems to have one of the nicest, most ridged and corky bark. Clone worthy? I’m not sure. I’d let a better expert than I decide that.

Here’s another fine giant at Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky. A closer view of the magnificient trunk follows.

The edible, pomological, and pharmacological clones are first discussed in recent western literature in: Santamour, F.S., Shan-an He, and A.J. McArdle. 1983. Checklist of cultivated Ginkgo. J. Arboriculture 9(3): 90. Welch and Haddow (1993) present a shorter summary of these. I have added some more recent ones below as they are definitely in the North American trade unlike the majority of Chinese and Japanese clones. There will likely be a convergence of clones to the “edible ornamental” with the quality fruiting and nut-producing clones having better habits, cut leaves, etc. We understand some of the pomologicals have a reduced fruit odor and that would be welcome all along the line.
Ripe Ginkgo fruit is more foetid than a hundred acres of pig farms but in the unripe stage it looks a big pretty. Certainly the nuts are very healthy and have been cherished for centuries on end. Here is one incredibly fruitful tree at Bernheim Forest. The bad odor of the ripening ginkgo fruit is due to the concentration of butyric acid, the same compound responsible for the four scent of vomit and feces. In fact, while walking around a fruitful ginkgo, more than one person has thought they might have stepped in something left by a canine species. Many old cemeteries, parks, and estates have found themselves with magnificently large female ginkgo trees that are too vital to remove entirely. Their solution is often to pollard them heavily, forcing some decades of juvenile tissues which is incapable of producing fruit. One can leave the trunk and some major limbs and within a couple of years, the habit will be pleasant even if much shorter.

If you're a bit lexdysic (I mean dyslexic) like me and have trouble spelling the genus (as do a great many nurseries, pill companies, and herb catalog writers) just use this memory crutch: "go with Ginkgo in the end" - thus GinkGO not GingKO. I sometimes see Ginkko or Ginggo too. I often wonder about the pharmaceutical quality of a Ginkgo pill if the manufacturer can't even spell the basic genus name right. What other things are they overlooking?

Ginkgo biloba 'Akebono' (10/6)
ha: compact, upright, irregularly columnar at times
lc: rich green
sex: male
so: www.collectorsnursery.com (online catalog 2006)

Ginkgo biloba 'Akeigan' (4/02)
ha: broadly conical, symmetrical
sex: male - Fruitless
afc: reliably bright yellow
or: F.C. Boyd Jr. selection in 1955's from a tree in the Boyd Nursery
so: www.maleginkgo.com (Boyd Nursery, online catalog 2002)

Ginkgo biloba 'Alberta'
ns: listed name in Europe c. 2006

Ginkgo biloba 'All Gold'
fc: yellow oil near gold in new growth, remaining so into spring, older blades more typical
ls: much incised in main position
or: early reports suggest origin in China, introduction to France c. 2012
photo: http://www.napho-futura.com/images/Papilionae%20Papilo%20sclerocysta%20ginko%20biloba%20all%20gold.jpg

Ginkgo biloba 'Armony's Dwarf'
ht: 2.5m
ha: compact, much smaller, a smallish pyramid
sex: male
ls: generally variable, often very incised and elongated compared to
is: it: ordinary broom-type dwarves.
lc: bright green - not bluish or silvery as some brooms

Ginkgo biloba 'Argentea'
lc: silvery or suffused silver
id: this is not known in the trade or collections today. One can find a silvery sheen on some leaves at
id: times but such a distinct clone is not with us today.

Ginkgo biloba 'Aurea' ('Yellowleaf', Pterophyllus Salisburianus aurea, J.N. Nelson, Pinaceae p. 164 (1866))
lc: yellow in spring and summer in modern literature including the Santamour Checklist. Welch in his
fc: 1990 Conifer Manual considers it "golden-variegated" which is correct if one reads Nelson's original text.
lc: To prove this point see the scan above.

Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Glory'
ht: 12m
ha: ovoid
Ginkgo biloba 'B. Fruit' provisional name (1/10)
http://www.buchholznursery.com (online plant file, January 17, 2010), name only, no description nor photo

Ginkgo biloba 'B.J. Bow Tie' ('B.J. Bow Tie') = 'Bowtie'

Ginkgo biloba (Fastigiata Group) BLAGON® ('Fastigiata Blagon')
ht: 14-16 ft. tall x 3-4 ft. wide (10 years), sometimes wider
ha: upright to conical-columnar, vigorous but not overly so,
ha: slower than most fastigiate sorts, thicker branches, short
haL: internodes, "taut", about 40cm a year growth
or: seedling from Blagon, France
lw: 6-10cm wide
lc: darker green veins
sex: male, fruitless
afc: reliable, nice gold color
ns: as a post-1959 intro. the Latin fastigiata cannot be part of the
ns: cultivar name. it does belong to the Fastigiata Group,
so: http://www.songsparrow.com (an early intro. to US, 2010)

Ginkgo biloba BOLESLAW CHROBRY® ('Bolesaw Chrobry' Coniferkingdom.com, accessed 1.12.2014)
ha: irregular to uneven-weeping, some plants more elegant than others
lla: larger than typical
in: first listed name from Europe c. 2007.
**Ginkgo biloba 'Bon's Dwarf'** ('Bon', 'Bon’s')
- Ha: compact, slower, from a witches broom
- Li: on small plants I've seen the blades are smaller at 1-2 in. wide, and barely incised, often dentate.
- So: witches broom

**Ginkgo biloba 'Bowtie'** ('B.J. Bowtie', 'BJ’s Bowtie')
- Ls, Lm: blades incised, lobes positioned like a traditional bow tie in many cases
- Ns, Id: a listed name c. 2005 with Crispin's Creations Nursery, USA
- Ns, Id: a ‘D.J.’s Bow Tie’ is listed with [www.porterhowse.com](http://www.porterhowse.com) (online catalog 2006)
- So: [www.brokenarrownursery.com](http://www.brokenarrownursery.com) (online catalog 2007)

**Ginkgo biloba 'Broom with Tubes'** (1/00)
- Ha: dwarf unlike original 'Tubeleaf'
- Lt, Ls: similar to 'Tubeleaf'
- Ns: listed name with Blue Sterling Nursery in 2000. Sounds like a WB version of 'Tubeleaf'?

**Ginkgo biloba 'Bryson City'**
- Ha: upright, columnar, not a fastigate or spire
- Sex: male, fruitless
- Or: Bryson City, North Carolina from a tree brought from China and planted there in 1941 by Mary Bryson Tipton. The city was named for her family. According to Dr. Ranney's website (link below), Mrs. Tipton was a missionary in China and forced to leave when the Chinese invaded that land.
- Ns: listed name with J.C. Raulston Arb. at NC State University c. 1998
- Photo, Web: [http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/fletcher/mcilab/introductions/bryson-city-gingko.html](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/fletcher/mcilab/introductions/bryson-city-gingko.html)

**Ginkgo biloba 'Buddy'** US trade c. 2009
- Bud: "huge fat buds... this one is distinct" (Arrowhead Alpine c. 2013)

**Ginkgo biloba 'Buchholz Variegata'** RHS Enc. Conifers 2012, post-1959 Latin name
- Ns, Id, Or: not listed by Buchholz Nursery, website, accessed 1/19/2014, however they ns, id, or: do offer several new, unnamed or provisionally named variegated. Clarification needed.

**Ginkgo biloba 'Bullwinkle'** (10/6)
- Ha: broadly weeping
- Lc: bluish-green, a slightly more glaucous blade perhaps
- Is: "moose antler"-shaped
- AfC: gold, showy
- Rs: this remains a doubtfully legit name as "the character names, their images, and indicia" of Bullwinkle and Rocky are trademarks of Ward Productions. Unless the originators have permission, these names cannot be used.
- So, In, Or: [www.collectorsnursery.com](http://www.collectorsnursery.com) (online catalog 2006), their own intro. 2006, companion to 'Rocky'

**Ginkgo biloba 'Busse'**
- Ns: a listed name from Germany.

**Ginkgo biloba 'BZN'** Esveld.nl, website, accessed 1.18.2014, not described, no photo

**Ginkgo biloba 'California Sunset'** Bluebellnursery.com, accessed 3.27.2013 ('Californian Sunset' Mesterhazy, Conifer Treasury 5.0, 2013)
- Lc: mostly yellow at first, becoming striped yellow to 30-60%
- lw, Ls: much narrower, very highly incised compared to other variegates

**Ginkgo biloba 'Canspy'** ('Bell')
- Ha: globose head, more umbrella-shaped with age
- Sex: male
- Or: Wavecrest Nur. of Fenville MI
- In: Tooie’s Bend Nur. was the first we found
Ginkgo biloba 'Chase Manhattan'
ht: 15 ft. in many years; about 6 ft. tall x wide in 10 years.
ha: semi-dwarf, very compact, uniform, slower when young than older, it is never a tiny broom
ls: smaller when young, often crenately lobed in 3-5 units or shallow lobes, the central bifid
ls, ll: break usually remaining the deepest and most distinct.
or: Bob Hartline of IL. Another reports says Bonn Hartline. The later spelling has suggested
or: to some a confusion with 'Bon's Dwarf', a dwarf witchesbroom mutant and usually much smaller.

Ginkgo biloba 'Chi Chi', 'Chicji-icho', or 'Chi Chi Icho' = 'Tschi Tschi'

Ginkgo biloba 'Chris Dwarf' ('Chris's Dwarf') ('Munchkin'?) (9/02)
ha: dwarf
ns: first seen listed as a name only by dancing-oaks.com (online website 2002). Collector's Nursery in
ns: 2006 states it may be the same as 'Munchkin' and some state it is the originator's preferred name.
so: www.collectorsnursery.com (online catalog 2006)

Ginkgo biloba (Dissecta Group) 'Chotek' (2/7)

ha: fastigiate
or: Saratoga Hort. Found. from a notable narrow tree in Cleveland, Ohio
isp: Los Angeles State and Co. Arboretum (per Santamour)

Ginkgo biloba 'Collector's Variegated' (1/10)
so: http://www.buchholznursery.com (online plant file, January 17, 2010), name only, no description nor photo

Ginkgo biloba (Fastigiata Group) 'Columnaris' illegit. post-1959 Latin name (2/10)
ha: "narrow form...great for providing shade and form in a tight
ha: space". We can presume it fits with the Fastigiata Group and perhaps an error for it.
in: listed by Greer Gardens (online catalog January 30, 2010)

Ginkgo biloba 'Conica' = 'Pillar', others say 'Barabitsii'

Ginkgo biloba 'Cutleaf' Harlan Kelsey and W.A. Dayton, Standardized Pl. Names 1942 ex Santamour = 'Laciniata'

Ginkgo biloba 'D.J.'s Bow Tie' (1/10) = 'Bowtie'
ha: "not as vigorous as the type"
ll, lt: "small bow tie-shaped"
so: http://www.buchholznursery.com (online plant file, January 17, 2010)

Ginkgo biloba 'David'
ha: compact, just 1.5m in 10 years, neat pyramidal but not columnar (Esveld.nl, accessed 1.18.2014)
lc: bright green
ls: distinct cupped
ns: first listed in our files with www.arboretum-online.de (online website 2007)

Ginkgo biloba 'Denise' Esveld.nl, website, accessed 1.18.2014, not described, no photo

Ginkgo biloba 'Dickinson'
s, so: a listed name with www.geefarms.com

Ginkgo biloba 'Dissecta' = 'Laciniata'

Ginkgo biloba 'Doctor Causton' (1/2007)
s, id: also listed in the RHS Horticultural Database, accessed 1.21.2014, as both (f) and (m) genders.
s: www.agroforestry.co.uk (online catalog 2007 but "not available this year")

Ginkgo biloba EASTERN STAR® (11/6)
Ginkgo biloba 'El Abra'
s: listed name in Europe c. 2006

Ginkgo biloba 'El Abra' (6/2007)
ha: upright
frt, sex: female, sterile fruit produced without pollen
or: www.ianfitzroy.com from their Kent nursery

Ginkgo biloba Fastigiata Group 'Elmwood Fastigiate' ('Elmwood Fastigiata' illegitimate post-1959 Latin, 'Elmwood' hort. US)
ha, so: "one of the very best upright forms" (Girard Nurseries online catalog 2002), slow, narrow,
sex: male

Ginkgo biloba 'Elmwood WB' provisional illegitimate name
ns: listed with www.arboretum-online.de (online website 2007)

Ginkgo biloba EMPEROR™ 'Woodstock'
ht: 50 ft. tall x 35-40 ft. wide (original tree)
ha: strong central leader, well-branched, uniformly oval. Photos we have seen do not suggest it
ha: it especially unique.
sx: male
afc: yellow, showy
or: Berthold Nursery, Woodstock IL USA selected from local private residence. It is thought the
or: original tree may have been given to the homeowner by the founder of D.Hill Nur. in early 1900's.
l: Berkeley,

Ginkgo biloba var. epiphylla Makino ('Epiphylla', 'Ohasuki', 'Ohasuki', 'Ohasuki', 'Ohasuki')
ns: listed with www.arboretum-online.de (online website 2007)
ht: 4m.
ls: half-rounded.
frt: leaves, usually petioles, or spurred leafy stems bear fruit or seeds, or have a closer than normal
frt: association with flowers/fruit
sex: female.
lu: while it is treasured in Japan for the unusual fruiting trait it has distinctive foliage too
or: in Japan in 1900's but apparently not named until the 1950's. Some credit the first discovery
or: of the epiphyllous form to Mr. Shirai in 1891
ns: the cultivar name is based on var. epiphylla Makino which appears to have priority in publication
ns: over the vernacular Japanese names. In any event it would not be a botanical variety though
ns: a case could be made for the rank of forma. Both Japanese and Chinese botanists revere the
ns: var. epiphylla as distinct entity (Jan. 2014) and using that rank in their studies. RHS considers it
ns: to be Ohasuki Group but I would favor f. epiphylla since it's apparently a genetic variation
ns: not from gardens with fairly simple genetics. As for the group name, there are reports
ns: male forms with microsporangia at the leaf margin (Fujii 1896), perhaps included here or not.
ns: There is a wealth of literature in both Chinese and Japanese journals on both male and female
ns: epiphyllous mutants. Their nomenclature incorporating DNA, chromosome, and horticultural
ns: trait differences and all the variations has yet to be worked out (January 2014).
li: Sciencia Silvae Sinicce 47(1): 56-61. (detailed, scientific analysis of normal vs. epiphyllous seeds)
li: Masters Thesis, Shangdong Agri. Univ., sold for approx. $29.00 online
li: http://www.dissertationtopic.net/doc/745886

Ginkgo biloba 'Everton' ('Everton Broom')
ha: dwarf, low compact, flat wide tree in time
lc: green, not bluish or silvery as some brooms
ns: listed with www.arboretum-online.de (online website 2007)

Ginkgo biloba (Fastigiata Group) 'Fairmount' ('Fairmont')
ha: compact, narrowly pyramidal with uniform central leader, vigorous, more open than 'Autumn Gold'
ht: 70-80 ft. tall x 30 ft. wide
afc: not always yellow or showy.
sx: male
or: Saratoga Hort. Foundation c. 1962 from a tree plants in Philadelphia PA at the Centennial
or: Exhibition in 1876. It is named for Fairmont Park at the expo site. See 'Fastigiata' for pictures.
ns, id: the correct spelling of the Philadelphia park is Fairmount not Fairmont. It is unfortunate
ns, id: the cultivar was published and now long established with the incorrect spelling. I wonder
ns, id: if the original Fairmount Park, super-narrow, spir-o-type clone is lost or confused with others
ns, id: as some material is not like the photos shown under 'Fastigiata' for the original Fairmount
ns, id: stock. As one witness, the esteemed firm of www.whitmanfarms (website, accessed 1.19.2014)
s, id: states "sort of the standard Ginkgo in my book...regularly branching" and they image a
ns, id: plant with about a 40 degree branch angle. One should expect the original Fairmount stock
ns, id: to be a narrow as 'Princeton Sentry' or very close as it ages.
Fastigiata at Tyler Arb., clearly not the narrow thing that Princeton Sentry is. One gets material more and less wide than this one under this name. This is surely not the original ‘Fastigiata’ of Philadelphia that is called ‘Fairmount’. The old joke that “male Ginkgos tend to be rigidly erect while (or when) the female seedlings have wide spreading limbs” is not scientific in terms of gender-linked traits. There was certainly an early drive since the 1900’s to select more male ginkgos in upright form, pairing those two characters in many named clones, and so that perception in some circles has continued.

‘Fastigiata’ in the original spire form, certainly wider than much stock under this name. Note the wider Tyler Arboretum photo above, likely more of the Fastigiata Group than a true narrow, original clone. This scan is thought to show the original Philadelphia tree from the exhibition c. 1876. This raises the question as to whether then Leiden (European) ‘Fastigiata’ is the wider one and the Philly material quite a bit more narrow and spire-like? The above scan is from the great E.H. Wilson’s “The Romance of Our Trees XI. Trees of Columnar Growth in The Garden Magazine (August 1920). His text (shown below) explains the five trees there and something of their history. It is clear some stock is ‘Fairmont’ (see entry above), cloned from a tree at Fairmount aka Fairmont Park. It seems called “Pyramidal Maidenhair Tree” is clearly not a slightly narrower form and shows Fairmount Park in Philly. This article by Samuel Newman Baxter appears in The Modern Cemetery 29: 218-219 and the second portion shown below is informative and also mentions narrow or pyramidal specimens at West Laurel Hill Cemetery. The photo states, this is two views of the same tree.

Ginkgo biloba Fastigiata Group ‘Fastigiata’ (f. fastigiata (Henry) Rehd.)

ha: columnar to narrowly conical at first, almost always wider with age, narrowly vase-shaped to ellipsoidal in time.
ha: It’s rarely as neat, full and cleanly compact as ‘Princeton Sentry’, being in overall form something like a columnar elm, outward arching but at least 3-5x tall as wide.

isp: or: probably from a notable, narrow tree in Hortus Botanicus, Leiden
isp: or: to a historical link to Master’s publication or plants at Kew is not certain.
For the rest of this 197 cultivar checklist please order CULTIVARS OF WOODY PLANTS ebook encyclopedia from www.cultivar.org