

Pawpaw as a Midwest Fruit Crop

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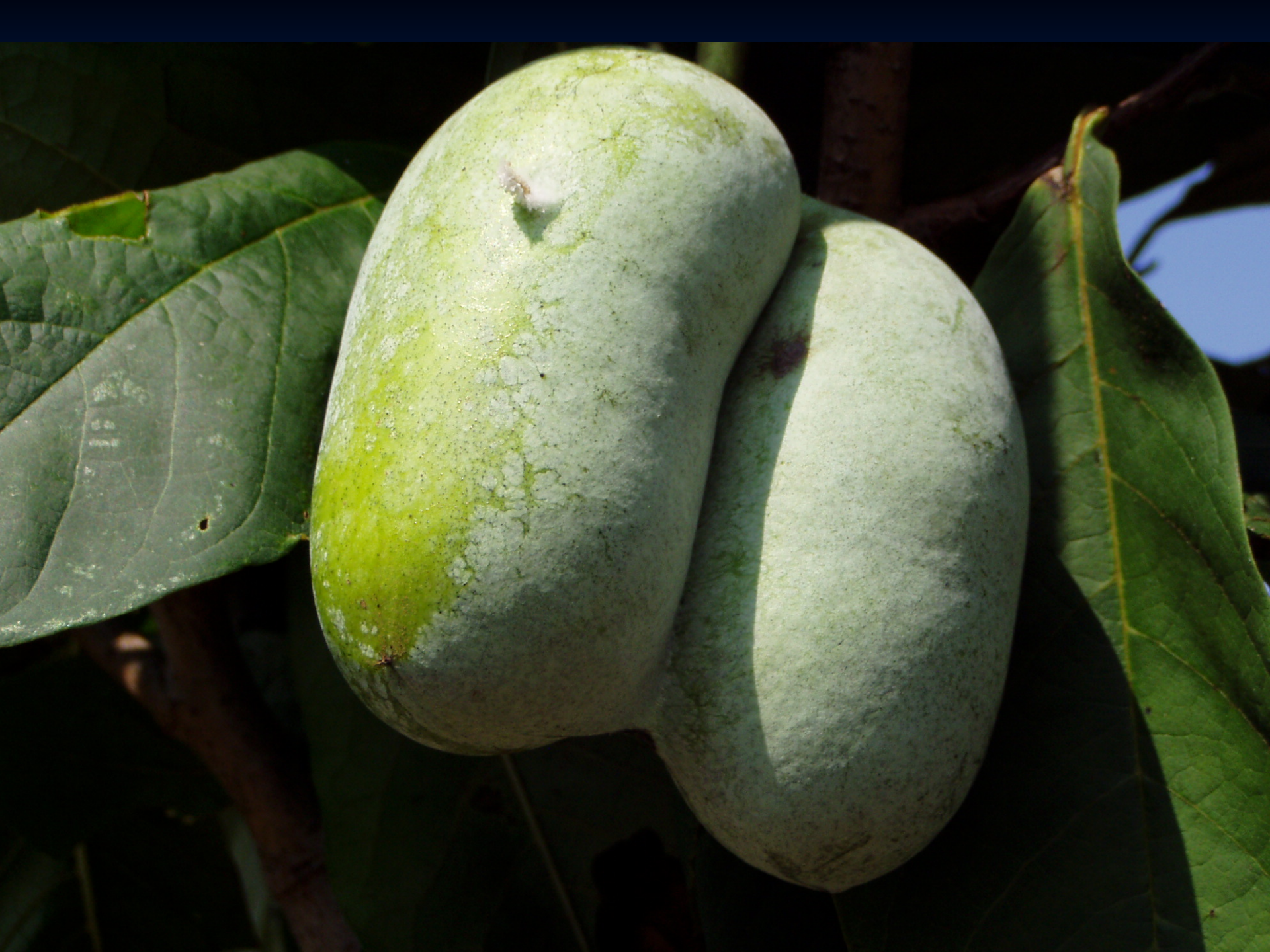


Pawpaw

- *Asimina triloba*
- Custard apple family (Annonaceae)
- Cousin to cherimoya, sweetsop, soursop
- Probably not native north of Missouri
- North America's largest native fruit
- Unique flavor
- Nutritious















Wild Pawpaws

- Few fruit
- Small fruit
- Many seeds
- Off flavor
- Critters harvest
- Can form large “patches”
- Shade

Pawpaw Cultivation

- Full sun?
- Pollination?
- Pruning?
- Difficult to transplant
- Start from seed
- 4 – 5 years to fruit
- Spacing
- Fertilization
- Need TLC first few years
- Pests?

Zebra swallowtail











Pawpaw Cultivars

- Overleese: from wild in Indiana, 1950
- Sunflower: from wild in Kansas, 1970
- Sweet Alice: from wild in West Virginia, 1934
- NC-1: hybrid seedling, 1976
- Wells: from wild in Indiana, 1990
- PA-Golden: seedling from New York orchard
- Mango: from wild in Georgia, 1970
- Susquehanna, Shenandoah, Rappahannock, Wabash, Allegheny, Potomac: Neal Peterson
- Atwood: University of Kentucky, 2012



Sunflower



Overleese



Shenandoah



Susquehanna





Pawpaw Research

- Pawpaw Foundation
- Kentucky State University
- Original cultivar trial 1993
- MU / MSU study planted 2003
 - Cultivar trial
 - Germplasm collection and evaluation
 - New study in 2013 on medicinal attributes of pulp



Pawpaw Markets

- Fresh
- Ice cream
- Pulp
- Wine
- Medicinal and pesticidal (leaves and shoot tips)

Pawpaw Resources

- The Pawpaw Foundation
c/o Pawpaw Research
147 Atwood Research Facility
Kentucky State University
Frankfort, KY 40601-2355
- www.pawpaw.kysu.edu
- www.petersonpawpaws.com

