

ANNONACEAE – ANNONA (CUSTARD APPLE) FAMILY

Plant: shrubs and trees, sometimes a vine

Stem:

Root:

Leaves: simple, entire, alternate, often glandular and sometimes aromatic; no stipules

Flowers: perfect, rarely unisexual, regular (actinomorphic); mostly solitary and large; 3 sepals; 6 petals in 2 whorls of 3 and usually unequal in size; stamens numerous; ovary superior, pistils several to numerous, 1 locule, 1 to numerous ovules

Fruit: often a fleshy, berry-like fruit or a dry fruit, seeds large and oily (some seeds poisonous)

Other: mostly tropical; pawpaw (custard apple) present locally; Dicotyledons Group

Genera: 112+ genera; locally *Asimina* (pawpaw)

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[Common, Tall] Pawpaw; *Asimina triloba* (L.) Dunal

[Common, Tall] Pawpaw

Asimina triloba (L.) Dunal

Annonaceae (Custard Apple Family)

Alley Springs, Ozark National Riverways,
Shannon County, Missouri

Notes: shrub to small tree; flowers purple-red, 2 whorls of 3 petals, 3 sepals; leaves alternate, large (up to 12 in), ovate, entire; bark mostly smooth; twigs and leaves emit an odor when crushed; end bud long, all buds naked with very dark and dense hairs; fruits large and fleshy, edible; spring

[V Max Brown, 2006]

