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*Amelanchier*

*Rosaceae*

*Amelanchier* is derived from a French Provençal name *amelanche* for one of the species in the genus *Amelanchier ovalis*.

One of the prominent common names associated with the species in this genus is Serviceberry. Some authorities contend that it harks back to the period when early European settlers were establishing themselves on the Great Plains of North America. They found that anybody who died during the Winter there had to remain unburied until the early Spring when the hard ground had begun to thaw – and at that time these were the only plants blooming that could be placed on the graves during funeral services.