

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Ribes cynosbati

[Synonyms : *Grossularia cynosbati*, *Ribes cynosbati* var. *atrox*, *Ribes cynosbati* var. *glabratum*, *Ribes cynosbati* var. *inerme*, *Ribes gracile*, *Ribes huronense*]

AMERICAN GOOSEBERRY is a deciduous shrub. Native to eastern North America it has small green flowers.

It is also known as American wild gooseberry, Dogberry, Dogbramble, Eastern prickly gooseberry, Gooseberry, Pasture gooseberry, Prickly gooseberry, and Wild gooseberry. Cultivated prickless varieties are grown for cooking and preserving including one known as the Mountain gooseberry.

Cynosbati means ‘dog berry’.

The American gooseberry was familiar to some of the North American Indian tribes, including the Chippewa, Potawatomi and some of the Algonkin. The Menominee tribe made a traditional and much relished dish with the small prickly wine-coloured fruit. They also, like the Cherokee, some of the Algonkin and some of the Chippewa preserved these fruit for food in Winter, the Potawatomi used the berries to make preserves and jam, and the Meskwaki Indians cooked the fruit with sugar for a pudding.

The shrub offered a source of medicine for a few North American tribes. The Meskwaki and some of the Potawatomi tribe used the root to treat some female problems – and the Potawatomi also applied a root infusion to sore eyes.