

Cause, like the other day, I was telling my granddaughter, when I was making a jelly. We went out and got some plums, you know, and I made some jelly. Yesterday my daughter came and I sent some to her, and my oldest granddaughter lives in Lawton...she's a nurse. I say you take her some. I was telling her, now these plums, we cook them in a kettle, and let them come to a boil, and then we get the juice out. My sister-in-law, she was a Kiowa, she said she never made plum butter. She take her plums and kind of smash them and put them out and dry them.

(The Apaches call them "dog tracks".)

I had some right here. I was going to take them out and dry them, but I didn't want to fool with them. The Sioux Indians use choce cherries. My husband was a Sioux, that's how come I know how they make them.

(What did the Wichita use to sweeten dishes before traders?)

They didn't used to.

(Did they ever use that mesquite bean?)

Yea, my grandmother used to say ...I never did taste it...but she said we used to use those all time. But I never did learn.

That's way back in the olden days.

(What's the word for plum?)

na?aes

(What about mesquite?)

Mesquite, now I know the name of it if I can think of it. Ah, I can't think of it. There's a name for it. Just don't come to my mind right now.

(Another plant that a lot of the people out here use is skunk-berries. Did the Wichita ever use those?)

Not that I know of, huh-uh. They might of used it, but I never did hear grandma say, I know the Kiowas do. Somebody made some one time, and my husband told me...we were over there to his brothers...and he said it was a skunkberry mush of some kind. I never did taste it.

(Did the Wichita ever use anything to fertilize their plants when they planted? I heard there was something called "swamp root". Do you know about that?)

There might have been, but I don't know.