PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Phytolacca rivinoides* Kunth & C. D. Bouche

**GENUS** *Phytolacca* **FAMILY** Phytolaccaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Venezuela pokeberry

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Leaves, Leaves - tea, Fruit

The young leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.
The leaves are boiled and used for tea.
Caution: Plants in this group can have toxic components.

## DESCRIPTION

A scrambling or climbing herb. From a woody base it has shoots 5 m long. The leaves are narrowly oval and 9-17 cm long by 5-7 cm wide. The flowering shoots are 15-50 cm long. The fruit are berries 2-6 mm across. The seeds are small and black.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in tropical America. It grows in lower mountain rainforest. It can grow up to 2,600 m above sea level.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

The seeds can remain viable in the soil for many years until light and temperature allow them to germinate.

## NOTES

There are 25 Phytolacca species.

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