

POISON IVY
(*Rhus radicans*)



Poison ivy is a woody perennial; therefore it should be classed as brush rather than an herbaceous weed. Called by such names as poison creeper and three-leaved ivy, it is found in open deciduous woods, along fences and roadsides, in thickets, orchards, and on wasteland. It will be found either as a short plant on open ground or as a climbing vinelike plant. When found as a vine, aerial rootlets can be seen clasping the vertical surface.

This species is widespread throughout the eastern United States and southeastern Canada. Other very similar species are found across the continent.

Stems are slender and weak even though they are woody. Leaves consist of 3 leaflets which are a smooth, shiny green; they are often found drooping from the petiole attachment (2). Leaflets are at the most 4 inches long and somewhat pointed. Groups of 3 leaflets occur alternately on the stem with other groups of 3.

Poison ivy flowers (4) are very small and are found in clusters which are borne in the axils of the leaves. Each small green flower has 5 petals. Clusters of flowers are from 1 to 3 inches long. A white hard berry (3) is produced from each flower. Stalks of these berries may persist from year to year. Seeds, one in each berry, are grey striped and small.

Roots, which are about the same size as the stems, trail beneath the ground (1). All parts of a poison ivy plant are harmful to sensitive individuals, because of oil within the plant.

Amitrole, Amitrol-T, 2,4,5-T and silvex applied to foliage will kill the plants by translocation of herbicide. Nonvolatile ammonium sulfate is a satisfactory brush killer when there are desirable plants growing nearby which are susceptible to phenoxy herbicides.

Prepared in cooperation with Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland.

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**Treatment of Elm Leaf Beetle
Now Serves Two-Fold Purpose**

Treatment now for elm leaf beetles will help save elm trees and reduce the problem of beetles invading homes when cold weather arrives. This suggestion is made by Stanley Coppock, Entomologist, New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service.

Numerous reports of more-than-usual damage by the beetles this year have come from Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Espanola and Farmington, Coppock says. Control is best obtained in a communitywide spray program, Coppock advised, listing DDT, Sevin, toxaphene and lead arsenate as preferred insecticides.

Damage to trees is caused by the larva which is small, striped and has the appearance of a tiny alligator. Larvae feed on the underside of leaves, particularly of the elm tree. Heavy infestation causes defoliation. Continued defoliation by the insects year after year may kill the trees.

Beacon Has New CO₂ System

A new CO₂ pressurizing system specially designed for herbicide and insecticide dispensing equipment has been announced by Beacon Devices Div. of Conax Corp. The system eliminates the need for hand pumping.

These systems are provided in kits that consist of adjustable pressure regulator, connecting hose and fittings, cylinder bracket, safety valves for protection of both pressurizing system and dispensing tanks, and a refillable CO₂ cylinder available in 8-oz. to 5-lb. capacities.

The Beacon piston-type regulator assures optimum control to maximize spraying efficiency. Tanks are changeable with hand pressure.

Detailed information is available from the company by writing to John F. Bergmann, Director of Marketing, Beacon Devices Div. of Conax Corp., 2300 Walden Ave., Buffalo, N. Y. 14225.