

AN OCCUPATIONAL HAZARD OF SURVEYING

COMMON POISON IVY



WESTERN POISON OAK



OAKLEAF POISON IVY



POISON SUMAC



WHERE IT GROWS:

In all provinces except Newfoundland. Abundant from Quebec City to the Great Lakes.

All along the Pacific Coast from southern California into Canada.

Throughout the South-eastern United States from New Jersey to Eastern Texas.

Found in the swamps of Southern Ontario and Western Quebec.

HOW IT GROWS:

As a woody vine, the vine stems look like "fuzzy ropes." As trailing shrubs, mostly on the ground. As erect woody shrubs, without support.

Most often as an upright shrub, with several woody stems growing from the ground. In open fields it can grow into large spreading clumps — sometimes six feet tall! In forests it becomes a vine and grows upward for 25 and 30 feet!

Usually as a low growing shrub. The slender branches often have a downy look.

As a coarse woody shrub or as a small tree. Never as a vine.

THE LEAVES:

Always in groups of three leaflets. The edges may be quite smooth or notched. Green through Spring and Summer, colorful in the early Fall, with scarlet, orange, and russet shades.

Always grow in groups of three leaflets. The center leaflet is apt to be similar on both sides and have a definite "oak-leaf" look. The side leaflets often take irregular shapes. Sometimes all of the leaflets have smooth edges. They are glossy and leather-like.

Always in groups of three leaflets. The center leaflet usually has an oak-leaf look. The side leaves may have uneven edges, have a downy appearance on the top surfaces.

7 to 13 leaflets, arranged as pairs along a central midrib with a single leaflet at the end. They have a smooth velvet texture, bright orange in the Spring. They turn to a dark glossy green with scarlet midribs in Summer. Early in the Fall they have red-orange and russet colors.

THE FLOWERS:

Small white flowers, in clusters, growing from the side of the stem, above a leaf.

They grow and are shaped much like common poison ivy flowers — they are about $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter, greenish white.

The flowers look and grow like those on common poison ivy.

Yellowish green, they hang in long clusters from the axis of the leaves.

THE FRUIT:

White or creamy and usually wax-like, but they can have a downy look. They have distinctive lines, like a peeled orange.

Creamy or greenish white, the size of small currants. The segments are clearly defined with lines.

Also like common poison ivy but more likely to have a downy appearance.

Ivory white or green colored—similar to the fruit of the other poisonous plants, but they hang in loose clusters — 10 to 12 inches long.

Non-poisonous Sumacs have red fruit and seed clusters at the ends of branches.