

JIMSONWEED – DATURA STRAMONIUM

Description – Jimsonweed is a large annual plant that grows wild throughout the United States, to a height of about 5 feet. It flowers, which bloom June through August, are long, trumpet-shaped and are white, lavender and violet. Black, flat kidney-shaped seeds are encased in a large prickly capsule with four valves. The pods commonly contain 400 to 800 seeds and split along the seams to release them in the late fall. When squeezed or crushed, the seeds give off a foul tomato-like odor. All parts of this plant are toxic; the seeds contain the highest level of toxicity. It is estimated that 4-5 grams of leaf or seeds would be fatal to a child.

Methods of Use – Jimsonweed is usually consumed in herbal tea concoctions. The seeds, leaves, and flower nectar can be eaten or smoked.

Street Names - Jimsonweed is also known as Jamestown Weed, Locoweed, Angel's Trumpet, Thorn Apple, Devil's Trumpet, Mad Apple, Stink Weed, Sacred Datura, Green Dragon, and Devil's Trumpet.

Physical Effects - Jimsonweed is a hallucinogen. The high experienced by users often includes delirium, delusions, hallucinations, disorientation, and incoherent speech. Symptoms usually occur within 30 to 60 minutes after ingestion. Symptoms can continue for 24 to 48 hours because the alkaloids present in jimsonweed retard the digestive process. Symptoms include: dry mouth, dilation of pupils, blurred vision, reddening of the face and neck, elevated blood pressure and body temperature, rapid heartbeat, fever, constipation, urinary retention, hallucinations, an agitated state, combative behavior, confusion, seizures, coma and death.