



Plantidote of the Day 2012-07-10

Submitted by twig on Tue, 07/10/2012 - 7:30am

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Nicotiana glauca

Indian tobacco

Welcome to the second installment in the "will she ever figure out how to focus that camera" series! Fortunately, this isn't a drop-dead gorgeous flower, but more of a weed. No one plants it in the garden, but it's everywhere here in greater LA. It's one of those plants that likes "disturbed" soil, so whenever hillsides are cleared, up comes the Indian tobacco. The plants are big -- 6 feet high and sometimes more.

Now you may be wondering, Why is it called Indian tobacco? Dunno. But if you run into any, don't even think about chewing it. The garden guide says that all tobaccos are poisonous when eaten, but this one is the only one that has actually been linked to fatalities.

Readers, please send twig (twig4now@gmail.com [6]) images and stories for the ongoing Plantidote of the Day series. In exchange, you'll win undying fame in the form of a hat tip! Plants growing in your garden, your house, or neighbor's yard, plants from the forest or farmers' market, plants you preserved, plants you prepared (wine; cider; tea; dried beans), plants you harvested (grains; chantrelles), plants you picked (flowers), plants you dried (herbs), plants you covet or hope to grow someday. Herbal remedies, propagation tips, new varieties, etc.. And if you can, include some solid detail about the plant, too -- a story, the genus and species, or where you got the seeds, or the recipe, or your grandmother gave it to you. Or challenge us with a "Name That Plant" mystery entry ... And please feel free to add corrections and additional information in the ccomments.

Click on the image for the full-size version. Click [here](#) [7] to see the entire series.



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[6]

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