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Clematis viorna

[Synonyms : *Clematis beadlei*, *Clematis flaccida*, *Clematis gattingeri*, *Clematis glaucophylla*, *Clematis viorna* var. *flaccida*, *Clematis viorna*, *Coriflora beadlei*, *Coriflora gattingeri*, *Coriflora viorna*, *Viorna beadlei*, *Viorna flaccida*, *Viorna gattingeri*, *Viorna ridgwayi*, *Viorna viorna*]

LEATHER FLOWER is a deciduous vine. Native to central North America it has dull reddish-purple flowers.

It is also known as American traveler's-joy, Headache weed, Leatherleaf clematis, Travellers' joy, and Vase vine.

Warning – most of the plant is poisonous and should not be taken internally. It can cause severe abdominal pain, gastro-intestinal irritation and death. The sap from the bruised plant can cause blistering, inflammation and sores. Because of its acrid taste animals (for which it is also fatal) rarely eat it.

A yellow dye can be obtained from the branches and leaves.

For the North American Meskwaki Indian tribe leather flower's root provided medicine.

Medicinally, herbalists have used the leaves and flowers to treat rheumatism and some skin disorders.