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Parthenocissus inserta

[Synonyms : *Parthenocissus dumetorum*, *Parthenocissus inserens*, *Parthenocissus laciniata*, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, *Parthenocissus spaethii*, *Parthenocissus vitacea*, *Vitis inserta*, *Vitis vitacea*]

COMMON VIRGINIA CREEPER is a deciduous climber. Native to North America it has leaves that turn red in Autumn.

It is also known as American ivy, False virginia creeper, *Fünfblättriger Wilder Wein* (German), *Loubinec popínavý* (Czech), *Pavinič popínavý* (Slovak), *Villiviini* (Finnish), *Vildvin* (Swedish), Virginia creeper, and Woodbine.

Inserta is derived from Latin *inserto* (to insert, put into) meaning ‘inserted or affixed to’ with reference to its ability to attach itself to trees and walls.

The bluish-black berries were eaten by some of the Navajo North American Indian tribe.

The vine also provided an ingredient for a potion taken by participants in the Navajo Mountain Chant Ceremony.

One or two North American Indian tribes used the vine as a source of medicine. For instance it was an Iroquois ingredient in a liquid taken for some urinary disorders.

Common virginia creeper was introduced to Britain from eastern North America in 1824.

Medicinally, in the past the plant was used in the treatment of malaria.