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*Persicaria pensylvanica*

[Synonyms : *Persicaria bicornis*, *Persicaria longistyla*, *Persicaria mississippiensis*, *Persicaria pensylvanica* var. *dura*, *Polygonum bicorne*, *Polygonum longistylum*, *Polygonum longistylum* var. *omissum*, *Polygonum mexicanum*, *Polygonum mississippiense*, *Polygonum mississippiense* var. *interius*, *Polygonum pensylvanicum*, *Polygonum pensylvanicum* var. *durum*, *Polygonum pensylvanicum* var. *eglandulosum*, *Polygonum pensylvanicum* var. *genuinum*, *Polygonum pensylvanicum* var. *laevigatum*, *Polygonum pensylvanicum* var. *rosiflorum*]

**PINKWEED** is an annual. Native to North America it has very small, pink or whitish-green flowers.

It is also known as Black heart, Common persicaria, Heart's ease, Knee knotweed, Knotweed, *Kvarnpilört* (Swedish), Pennsylvania persicaria, Pennsylvania smartweed, Pink jointweed, Pink knotweed, Plain smartweed, *Rdesno pensylvánské* (Czech), Smartweed, and Tearthumb.

Warning – very occasionally contact with the plant can cause dermatitis.

In the United States pinkweed has been declared a noxious weed in 35 States including Minnesota, Kentucky, Illinois and Nebraska.

*Pensylvanica* means 'of or from Pennsylvania (United States)'.

The plant was a source of medicine used by several North American Indian tribes for a variety of problems. The Menominee Indians employed it for treating some female problems, including fluid retention, and for internal bleeding, while the Chippewa prescribed a plant top infusion as a remedy for epilepsy and the Meskwaki Indians used the plant to treat piles.