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*Phytolacca*

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*Phytolacca* is derived from Greek *phyto-* (plant) and Latin *lacca* components, the latter derived from Hindi *lakh* or Arabic *lakka* (coloured), with reference to the lac insect or its resinous scarlet secretion (lac) and the black stain that can be obtained from the fruit. Species in this genus are poisonous (particularly their unripe fruit and the root).