


**poison-ivy** *Anacardiaceae* *Toxicodendron radicans* (L.) Kuntze   
 symbol: TORA2

**vTree**

**Leaf:** Alternate, trifoliate, 7 to 10 inches long, leaflets are ovate and irregularly toothed, shiny green above, paler below. TOXIC.

**Flower:** Species is monoecious; small, yellowish green, appearing in clusters, present late spring to early summer. TOXIC.

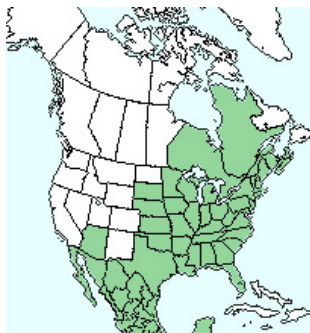
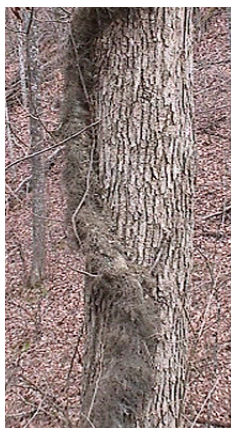
**Fruit:** Greenish white, round, 1/4 inch in diameter, borne in a hanging cluster, ripe in late summer and persist through winter. TOXIC.

**Twig:** Slender, gray- to red-brown, sparingly pubescent or glabrous, slender aerial roots present and older growth becomes densely covered and "hairy" in appearance; buds are stalked, naked, fuzzy brown, 1/4 inch long. TOXIC.

**Bark:** Dark gray, densely covered in aerial roots. TOXIC.

**Form:** May be present as a low (6 to 18 inches), spreading "carpet" on the forest floor, as a climbing vine, or as a bush.

**Looks like:** [poison-oak](#) - [Pacific poisonoak](#) - [skunkbush sumac](#) - [fragrant sumac](#)



Widespread in North America.

**Additional Range Information:**  
*Toxicodendron radicans* is native to North America. It is not widely planted. [See states reporting poison-ivy.](#)

**External Links:**  
[USDAFS Additional Silvics](#)  
[USDA Plants Database](#)

© Copyright 2012, Virginia Tech Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation, all rights reserved.  
 Photos and Text by: John Seiler, Edward Jensen, Alex Niemiera, and John Peterson.