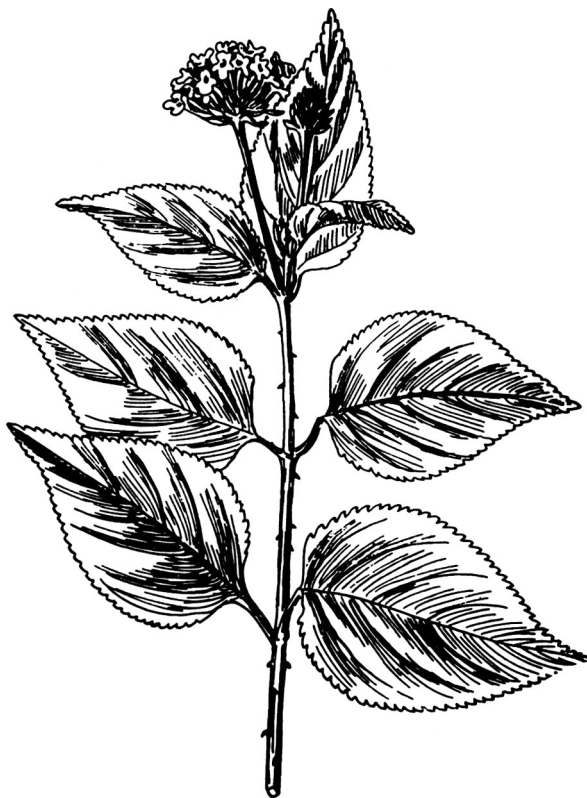


197. *LANTANA CAMARA* L. (VERBENACEAE) — Lantana

Natives of tropical countries are said to eat the ripe blue-black berries, but human fatalities have been attributed to ingestion of the green berries.⁵⁶ Though considered ornamental by some, it is mainly a weed of plantation crops and pasture, infesting nearly 4 million hectare in Australia and 160,000 in Hawaii.¹⁵⁷

The plants are used in folk remedies for cancer and tumors.⁴ Reported to be alexiteric, antibiotic, carminative, depurative, diaphoretic, digestive, emmenagogue, expectorant, hemostat, nervine, pectoral, piscicide, sedative, stimulant, stomachic, sudorific, tonic, and vulnerary, lantana is a folk remedy for anemia, asthma, catarrh, chicken pox, colds, consumption, diarrhea, dysentery, dysmenorrhea, dyspepsia, eczema, fever, fistula, flu, hemorrhage, hypertension, inflammation, itch, jaundice, leprosy, malaria, measles, mumps, neurodermatitis, parotiditis, parturition, rheumatism, snakebite, sore, spasm, stomachache, stomatitis, tetanus, toothache, tumor, wounds, and yellow fever.^{32 33,42} Venezuelans poultice the leaves on sores. Bahamians apply the leaves to chicken pox and measles. Surinamese use the plant for fevers; Panamanians for colds; Mexicans for rheumatism; Costa Ricans for asthma, high blood pressure; Venezuelans for diarrhea and dysmenorrhea; Jamaicans for colds and fevers; and Salvadorans for venereal diseases.⁴² South Chinese use the plant decoction externally for leprosy and scabies. Indonesians consider the herb emmenagogue, stimulant, and vermifuge. Malaysians poultice the antiseptic leaves to cuts, rheumatism, and ulcers. Leaves are considered antispasmodic, diaphoretic, and stomachic. Wilted leaves are said to relieve asthmatic breathing, fresh leaves to prevent fever.¹⁶

Leaves contain 0.2 to 0.7% lanthanine $C_{35}H_{52}O_5$ (lantadene A) and 0.2% lantadene B ($C_{35}H_{52}O_5$), icterogenin, 0.05 to 0.2% essential oil with citral and other sesquiterpenes, up to 80% caryophyllene, and 10 to 12% phellandrene, dipentene, terpineol, geraniol, linalool,