Jimsonweed Encyclopedia Article

Jimsonweed

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Contents

Jimsonweed Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Jimsonweed.....3

Jimsonweed

Jimsonweed is a tall, coarse, poisonous plant that flowers, produces seed, and dies in one year. A member of the nightshade family (*Solanaceae*), it produces a mind-altering substance called atropine. Atropine causes the pupils of the user's eyes to widen. It can be used to stop muscular spasms, lessen pain, and reduce bodily secretions. Native Americans in what is now Virginia and woodland tribes of eastern North America made strong intoxicating substances from jimsonweed.

See Also

Drugs Used in Rituals.