

## **Comparative Seed Manual: EBENACEAE**

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This seed manual consists of photos and relevant information on plant species housed in the Integrative Subsistence Laboratory at the Anthropology Department, University of California, Santa Barbara. The impetus for the creation of this manual was to enable UCSB graduate students to have access to comparative materials when making in-field identifications. Most of the plant species included in the manual come from New World locales with an emphasis on Eastern North America, California, Mexico, Central America, and the South American Andes.

### Published references consulted<sup>1</sup>:

1998. Moerman, Daniel E. *Native American ethnobotany*. Vol. 879. Portland, OR: Timber press.

2009. Moerman, Daniel E. *Native American medicinal plants: an ethnobotanical dictionary*. OR: Timber Press.

2010. Moerman, Daniel E. *Native American food plants: an ethnobotanical dictionary*. OR: Timber Press.

### Species included herein:

*Diospyros* spp.

*Diospyros virginiana*

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<sup>1</sup> **Disclaimer:** Information on relevant edible and medicinal uses comes from a variety of sources, both published and internet-based; this manual does **NOT** recommend using any plants as food or medicine without first consulting a medical professional.

*Diospyros* spp.



**Family:** Ebenaceae

**Common Names:** Common persimmon

**Habitat and Growth Habit:** The *Diospyros* genus contains a large number of species, and most of them are native to tropical regions. However, two species in this genus are noted to be native to the United States.

**Human Uses:** The name of the species in Greek translates to “edible fruit.” It is noted that many species in this genus are edible and have been used in the human diet.

**Sources Consulted:**

[http://www.dlh.dk/media/technical+descriptions/~media/files/website%20specific%20files/dlh\\_usa/td\\_north\\_america/persimmon.ashx](http://www.dlh.dk/media/technical+descriptions/~media/files/website%20specific%20files/dlh_usa/td_north_america/persimmon.ashx), accessed November 6, 2019.

*Diospyros virginiana*



**Family:** Ebenaceae

**Common Names:** Common persimmon, Eastern persimmon, Possumwood, Date plum, Winter plum, Jove's fruit, Simmon, Possumwood

**Habitat and Growth Habit:** This species is associated with North America and found in forests.

**Human Uses:** There are many uses for *Diospyros virginiana* including agricultural use, wildlife food, wood source, ornamental use, erosion control, food, golf club heads, and medicinal uses. This species has been used to treat or alieve fever, diarrhea, and hemorrhage.

**Sources Consulted:**

[http://www.calflora.org/cgi-bin/species\\_query.cgi?where-taxon=Diospyros+virginiana](http://www.calflora.org/cgi-bin/species_query.cgi?where-taxon=Diospyros+virginiana), accessed November 6, 2019.

[https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=divi5](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=divi5), accessed November 6, 2019.

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=29>, accessed November 6, 2019.

<https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/tree/diovir/all.html>, accessed November 6, 2019.

<https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/tree/diovir/all.html>, accessed November 6, 2019.