

MEKA RĀKAU

# Tutu

*Coriaria arborea*



Sparklers

MEKA RĀKAU

# Characteristics

Tutu is one of the most well-known poisonous plants in Aotearoa.

They can be found along stream banks and regenerating native bush, sometimes leading to animals being poisoned.

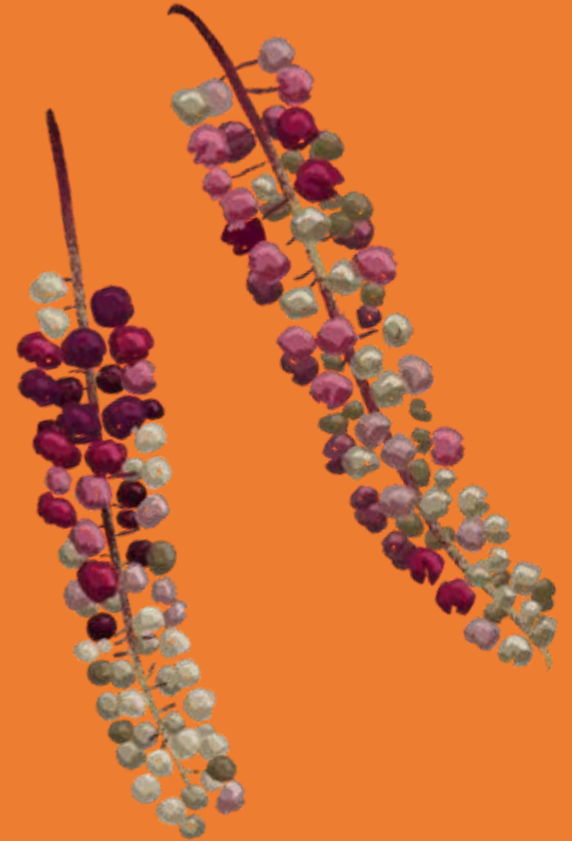
You'll recognise this rākau by the symmetrical pairs of veiny leaves and hanging bunches of purple-ish berries, steer clear!



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While they are known to be the most poisonous plant in Aotearoa, tutu can be turned into various foods and medicines that were used by some iwi Māori. But leave it to the experts!

**Remember every rākau has something important to share, even tutu!**



**What can we learn from  
tutu?**

**How might we apply this  
in our classroom?**

