

## Rynchosia phaseoloides - Piule

- Leguminosae - Tropical and warm zones worldwide



The beautiful red and black beans of several species of *Rynchosia* may have been employed in ancient Mexico as an hallucinogenic. Paintings of these seeds on frescos dated A.D. 300-400 at Tepantitla suggest former use as a sacred plant. The flowers of *R.longeracemosa* are yellow, the seeds are light- and dark-brown. *R.pyramidalis* has greenish flowers and half-red, half-black seeds.

Known as 'piule' in Oaxaca, Mexico, a general term for entheogens although such use has never been documented. The beautiful seeds are hard with a red and black yin-yang type pattern. They are used as good-luck charms and regarded as auspicious gifts. Must be nicked and soaked before planting. Thought to be highly toxic