American black nightshade, common nightshade  
(Solanum americanum)

By Stephen H. Futch and David W. Hall

Season: summer annual or short-lived perennial
Plant height: herbaceous, up to 4 feet tall
Stem: erect, smooth, branched, base may be woody
Leaves: alternate, stalked, blades elliptical to somewhat lance-shaped; to 4 inches long and 2 inches wide; sparingly hairy, mostly along the margins; margins smooth or with a few rough teeth; seedling blades green underneath
Flower: in stalked clusters, from leaf axils, star-shaped, white petals curving out and backward with yellow protruding stamens
Fruit: shiny berry, one-quarter to one-third inch in diameter, green and turning purplish-black at maturity.
Seed: 50 to 110 per berry
Distribution: found throughout Florida in disturbed sites, open woods, fields, cultivated areas, and pastures; also found in Gulf coast states to California, north to North Dakota and Maine and into Central America and South America

The entire plant and fruits should be considered as poisonous.

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