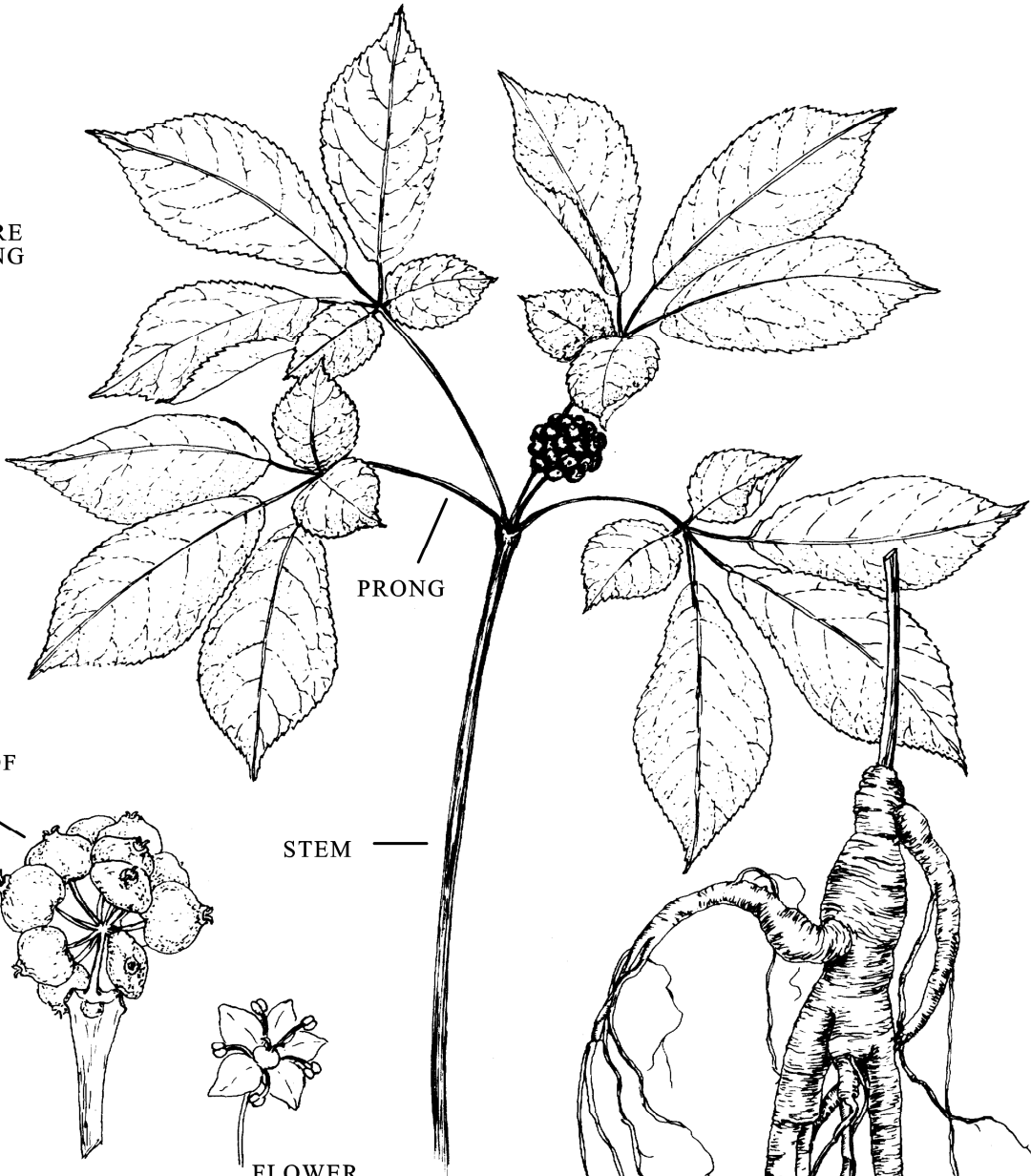


# AMERICAN GINSENG

MATURE  
4-PRONG  
PLANT  
1X



PRONG

CLUSTER OF  
BERRIES  
5X

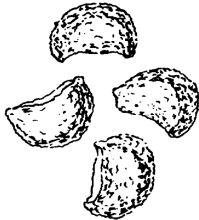


STEM



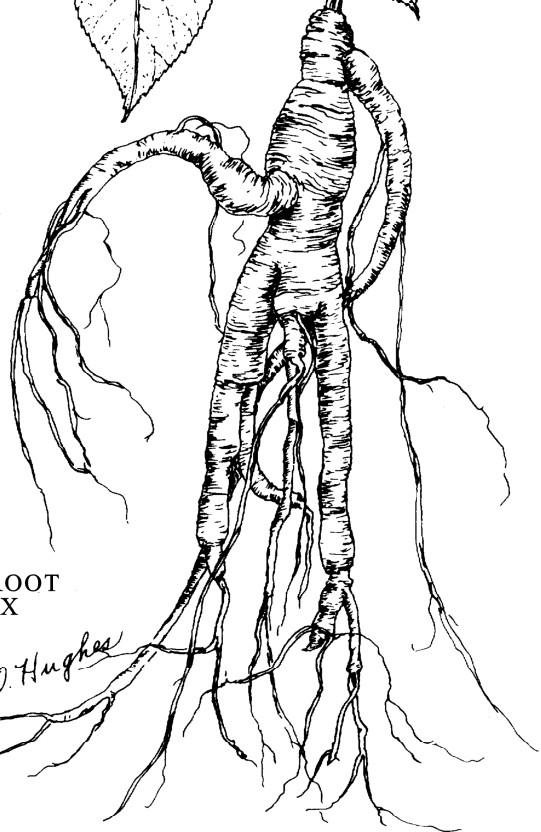
FLOWER  
5X

SEEDS  
10X



ROOT  
1X

*Regina O. Hughes*



# ATTENTION GEORGIA GINSENG DIGGERS, DEALERS, & GROWERS

## GINSENG MANAGEMENT

The export of American ginseng from the USA is regulated by the federal government under the authority of The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) because it is a plant of limited abundance. **Wild American Ginseng must be at least five years old before it can legally be exported out of the United States.** The export of ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius* L.) from Georgia is authorized by this federal authority in combination with the Georgia Ginseng Protection Act of 1979, as amended in 1996. Compliance with federal and state guidelines is required in order to maintain a federally approved harvest and export program.

Ginseng dealers and growers are required to register with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on a yearly basis, to keep harvest and export records of wild and cultivated ginseng, and to obtain certification by DNR of all ginseng prior to export. **Ginseng harvest on private lands is only allowed between September 1 and December 31.** Ginseng diggers must obtain written permission from the landowner prior to harvesting ginseng root. **The harvest of wild ginseng seed and removal of seed from the site is prohibited by law.**

## GEORGIA GINSENG HARVEST ON PUBLIC LANDS

Permits are required to harvest ginseng on the Chattahoochee National Forest. **The season for harvesting ginseng on U.S. Forest Service property is September 15 to September 28.** Due to the scarcity of wild ginseng some Forest Service Districts do not allow harvesting. Diggers should check with the appropriate District Office to determine if ginseng digging is allowed and to obtain permits. It is unlawful to harvest on public lands, either state or federal, without permits. **No permits are issued by the State of Georgia for the harvest of ginseng from state lands.**

## GEORGIA LAW REQUIRES THAT:

- ◆ Dealers and growers register with the Department of Natural Resources each season;
- ◆ Diggers harvest wild ginseng only from September 1 to December 31;
- ◆ Diggers harvest only plants with three (3) or more prongs, & replant ripe berries at the same site;
- ◆ Diggers must obtain written landowner permission prior to harvesting ginseng;
- ◆ Dealers must maintain precise records of purchases, sales, and county of origin;
- ◆ Growers must maintain precise records of harvest and sale of all cultivated ginseng products;
- ◆ All cultivated and wild ginseng roots harvested in the State must be certified prior to export;
- ◆ Growers cannot sell cultivated live plants or seeds for export unless the operation is inspected and approved by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

**VIOLATIONS** of the Ginseng Protection Act (O.C.G.A. 12-6-150) are punishable as a misdemeanor.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Ginseng Management Program  
2065 U.S. Hwy. 278 S.E.  
Social Circle, GA 30025-4743  
Voice: (770)918-6411 or (706)557-3032 Fax: (706)557-3033