

CUSCUTA CUSPIDATA Engelm.
Cuspidate Dodder

FAMILY: Cuscutaceae

HABIT: Parasitic annual herb, flowers five-merous; flowering late August to early October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Differs from similar dodders by having a distinct bract subtending each pediceled flower.

TOTAL RANGE: Nw. Ohio, Ind. and Wisconsin to N.D., Utah and Texas.

STATE RANGE: Post-1980 records from Mercer and Paulding counties.

STATE STATUS: Added-2002; Endangered-2004.

HABITAT: Growing on Aster spp. and other hosts in openings along creeks and streams.

HAZARDS: Habitat loss.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Poor; western limit of its range. This species was likely never frequent in Ohio.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature flowering and fruiting material.

COMMENTS: Dodders are very difficult group. Detailed field notes on habit are important for later identification such as noting the host plant(s) and flower and/or fruit characters.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Voss, E. G. 1996. Michigan Flora Part III. Dicots concluded. Cranbrook Institute of Science & U. of Michigan Herbarium, Ann Arbor. 622 p.

Yuncker, T. G. 1921. Revision of the North American and West Indian Species of Cuscuta. Illinois Biological Monographs 6:91-231.



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