

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDCUS010G0

Data Sensitivity: No

**CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE**

**NAME:** *Cuscuta dentatasquamata*

**COMMON NAME:** Los Pinitos Dodder

**SYNONYMS:**

**FAMILY:** Cuscutaceae

**AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION:** Yuncker, Truman George. Torrey Botanical Club 49(4): 107-108. 1922.

**TYPE LOCALITY:** Sonora, Mexico.

**TYPE SPECIMEN:** U.S. National Herbarium, Smithsonian Institution, US00111169. C.V. Hartman, #119, October 12, 1890. (Isotype).

**TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS:** There are 17 species of *Cuscuta* found in Arizona. Four species, *C. mitriformis*, *C. odontolepis*, *C. erosa* and *C. dentatasquamata*, are only found in Arizona within the U.S., and two species, *C. mitriformis* and *C. dentatasquamata* are only known from single collections sites.

**DESCRIPTION:** Flowers pedicellate, somewhat fleshy; calyx deep, the lobes equaling or exceeding the corolla tube; corolla campanulate, the lobes triangular, acute, shorter than the tube, spreading; scales oblong, dentate; styles slender, slightly subulate, about equaling or longer than the depressed-globose ovary; capsule depressed-globose, thin, somewhat irregularly circumscissile.

**AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:** Capsules circumscissile, i.e., easily separating near the base in a more or less regular line of cleavage; styles more slender than subulate, mostly about equally thick throughout; scales dentate only towards apex (not fimbriate); flowers reddish when dry, smooth (not whitish, granulate), calyx lobes triangulate, scales bridged near the middle. Known only from Florida Canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains, Pima County, and associated with host plant *Bouvardia ternifolia*.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:**

Herbarium Mount: <http://eol.org/pages/488089/overview>.

**TOTAL RANGE:** Single collections in Los Pinitos, Sonora, Mexico (type locality) and Pima County, Arizona.

**RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA:** Known only from Florida Canyon, Santa Rita Mountains, Pima County, Arizona.

### **SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS**

**GROWTH FORM:** Perennial, herbaceous vine, rootless.

**PHENOLOGY:**

**BIOLOGY:** The plant is parasitic. Upon emergence from the seed, the slender, elongate seedling coils its yellowish, thread-like stems about an available host to which it becomes firmly attached by means of its sucker-like organs (haustoria) Kearney and Peebles, 1960.

**HABITAT:** A primary host plant is scarlet bouvardia (*Bouvardia ternifolia*), which grows best in partial shade in canyons and on slopes from 3000 – 8000 feet (915 – 2500 m).

**ELEVATION:** Not specified, but host plant ranges from 3000 – 8000 feet (915 – 2500m).

**EXPOSURE:** Host plant prefers partial shade.

**SUBSTRATE:** Not applicable; no roots. Attaches to host plant.

**PLANT COMMUNITY:** Host plant found in pine-oak and juniper-oak woodlands.

**POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS:** Unknown. Plant known from only two collections, 1890 in Mexico and 1934 in Arizona. Noted as rare.

### **SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION**

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS:** None.

**STATE STATUS:** None.

**OTHER STATUS:** None.

**MANAGEMENT FACTORS:** Unknown.

**PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:** None.

**SUGGESTED PROJECTS:**

**LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:** U.S. Forest Service.

## **SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**

### **REFERENCES:**

- JStor| Global Plants, accessed 9/19/2013, <http://plants.jstor.org/specimen/us00111169?s=t>.
- Kearney, Thomas H. and Robert H. Peebles. 1960. Arizona Flora. Univ. of Cal. Press, Berkeley. pp. 666-671.
- NatureServe. 2013. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia: <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: September 19, 2013).
- Tropicos, accessed 9/19/2013, <http://www.tropicos.org/Name/8500672>.

### **MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

**Revised:** 2013-09-19 BDT

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