

# *Cuscuta japonica*

## JAPANESE DODDER

### *Cuscutaceae*

Common Synonyms: *none*

**FLEPPC Category:** -

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** Yes

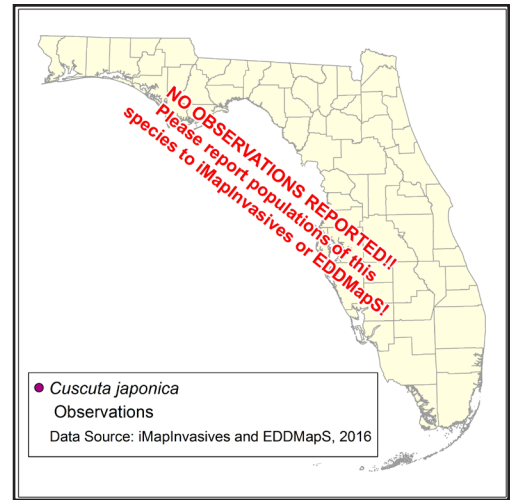
**IFAS Assessment**

North -  
Central -  
South -

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4 - 11

**Growth Habit:** Parasitic vine

**Origin:** Japan



Victor Cordova, City of Houston, Urban Forestry Division, Bugwood.org

**Description:** Leafless, parasitic vine, 1-3 mm in diameter yellow-gold in color. Thick spaghetti-like stems spreading over large shrubs and small trees. Flowers are small, pale yellow, on short dense spikes.

**Habitat:** Disturbed sites

**Comments:** Vouchered from Gadsden Co only. Listed as federal noxious weed. Known from several other states. Dispersed by seed (water, soil disturbance, machinery) and vegetatively through stem fragmentation.

**Florida Introduction Date:** 1943

**Control Methods:**

Mechanical: Conduct a prescribed fire after the chemical treatment to kill seeds on the soil surface (Bugwood Network).

Chemical: Foliar (glyphosate, Bugwood Network)

Note: Monitor for seedling germination and treat with chemicals (Bugwood Network).

**Useful Resources:**

Floridata. 2013. *Cuscuta* spp. [http://www.floridata.com/ref/c/cusc\\_spp.cfm](http://www.floridata.com/ref/c/cusc_spp.cfm). Accessed on December 4, 2013.

Oregon Department of Agriculture. 2013. ODA Plant Programs, Noxious Weed Control: Japanese dodder (*Cuscuta japonica*). [http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/plant/weeds/Pages/profile\\_japanesedodder.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/plant/weeds/Pages/profile_japanesedodder.aspx). Accessed on December 4, 2013.

University of Georgia - Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health. 2013. Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States: Japanese dodder (*Cuscuta japonica* Choisy). <http://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=5446>. Accessed on December 4, 2013.