

*Cuscuta obtusiflora* H.B.K. var. *glandulosa* Engelm. in Indiana

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On August 14, 1925, C. C. Deam collected a specimen of dodder (No. 41990) growing on *Dianthera americana* L. in the Tippecanoe River about 1 mile below Monticello in White County. This specimen was subsequently sent to me for identification. It did not, however, agree with any of the then known Indiana species and was placed aside for further study. It was overlooked for a number of years and only recently has been restudied.

In a critical examination of the plant it is now evident that it is in reality *Cuscuta obtusiflora* H.B.K. var. *glandulosa* Engelm. (*C. glandulosa* (Engelm.) Small), and, as such, represents the first known report of this variety for Indiana.

*C. obtusiflora* is widely distributed through South America. The variety *glandulosa*, however, does not occur, so far as I know, in South America but exhibits a more northern distribution through the West Indies from Trinidad to Cuba, where it has been collected a number of times. It also occurs in the southern United States from Florida and Georgia to Texas, where it appears to be most abundant. It has also been collected in southern California and in central Mexico. The northernmost collections previously known were made in Oklahoma and central Arkansas. Its occurrence in northern Indiana, therefore, represents an unusual and remarkable extension of the range for this variety.

The flowers are commonly 5-parted, glandular, subsessile in scattered, moderately open, glomerulate-cymose clusters. The calyx lobes are ovate, obtuse, scarcely overlapping at the base and with one lobe generally distinctly smaller than the others. The corolla tube is campanulate, with ovate to ovate-oblong, obtuse or acutish, upright to spreading lobes. The infrastamineal scales are oblong, fringed with medium length processes about the top, sometimes bifid or truncated. The styles are stoutish and subulate and shorter than the depressed-globose capsule which has a widely gaping interstyler aperture.

It prefers marsh or semi-aquatic hosts particularly species of *Polygonum* and often is erroneously identified as *C. Polygonorum* Engelm. The flowers of *C. Polygonorum*, however, are mostly 4-parted, with triangular, acute corolla lobes, and mostly bifid and somewhat reduced infrastamineal scales. The only other Indiana species with which it might be confused is *C. Campestris* Yuncker. The calyx lobes of that species are more or less overlapping at the base and the corolla lobes are triangular to subanceolate and acute. The styles are mostly slender, the interstyler aperture smaller, and the infrastamineal scales larger and more abundantly fringed.

How the seeds of this variety reached northern Indiana is an interesting question. One possibility is that they were carried from some southern station by migrating water fowl, presumably adhering to the feet or legs in a bit of mud.