

*Dodder.*

The Dodder (*Cuscuta Trifolii*) is a parasitic plant, an annual which is found twining around the stem of clover. Some specimens were received for identification from the vicinity of Drayton. The seeds of the dodder are sometimes found among clover seed. When these are sown they germinate and reach the clover plants around which they twine and send out from all parts of their stem rootlets that penetrate the clover stems and absorb sap from them and soon weaken the plants upon which they grow. The dodder stem as soon

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as it gets a firm hold of the clover breaks away from the seed from which it started and lives entirely upon the clover as a regular parasite. When found attacking clover the plants affected should be removed. It is easily recognized as a yellow, leafless, string-like plant twining around the clover. Care should be exercised to sow clean clover seed. Dodder seeds though similar to clover seed are smaller and may be screened. In Europe this parasite is often injurious. The specimens which have come under the writer's