



## Japanese Dodder

### Invasive Weed Detected in Sacramento

#### What is Japanese Dodder?

Japanese Dodder (*Cuscuta japonica* Choisy) is an exotic parasitic vine that kills trees and shrubs. It strangles trees by twining around their branches and engulfing them. Dodder lacks chlorophyll and needs another host plant in order to obtain its nutrients. This parasitic action drains the host of vital nutrients needed for healthy growth. Japanese Dodder will weaken and eventually kill the plant that it is growing on. It can grow up to 6 inches per day.



#### How to identify Japanese Dodder?

Japanese Dodder (JD) is a yellow-green vine that resembles spaghetti. It does not have leaves or roots. It responds to freezing temperatures by turning a brown/black color. It is hardy to 9 ° Fahrenheit. It attacks many plant species including citrus, privet, oleander, oak, and almond.

#### How does it spread?

JD spreads by growing from one plant to another. It can also reproduce from vine segments.

#### Eradication

Japanese Dodder is a Federal Noxious Weed and it is **illegal** to grow. Eradication efforts are underway throughout California in all areas with infestations. The eradication process involves complete removal of the host and monitoring the site to make certain that it does not remain.

Sacramento County is in the process of eradicating Japanese Dodder from many sites in the County at no cost to the property owner. We need your help and cooperation by identifying new locations where you have seen Japanese Dodder and allowing us to remove it.



#### How to contact us

To report a Japanese Dodder site in Sacramento County or to request eradication on your property please call **1- 800-491-1899** or e-mail us at [Dodder@saccounty.net](mailto:Dodder@saccounty.net) . Sacramento County Agricultural Commissioner, 4137 Branch Center Road, Sacramento, CA 95827