PLANT FACT SHEET

Cassytha melantha R. Br.

GENUS *Cassytha* **FAMILY** Lauraceae

COMMON NAMES Large dodderlaurel, Mallee Strangle Vine

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

CAUTION: Some Cassytha have an alkaloid that can cause abortion and should not therefore be eaten by pregnant women.

DESCRIPTION

It is a tough twining plant that lives off other plants. It keeps growing from year to year. It can grow 9 m high and spread 3-4 m wide. It appears to be leafless. The flowers are very small and white. They are less than 10 mm across. The fruit are fleshy berries. They are round, green and without hairs. They become black at maturity.

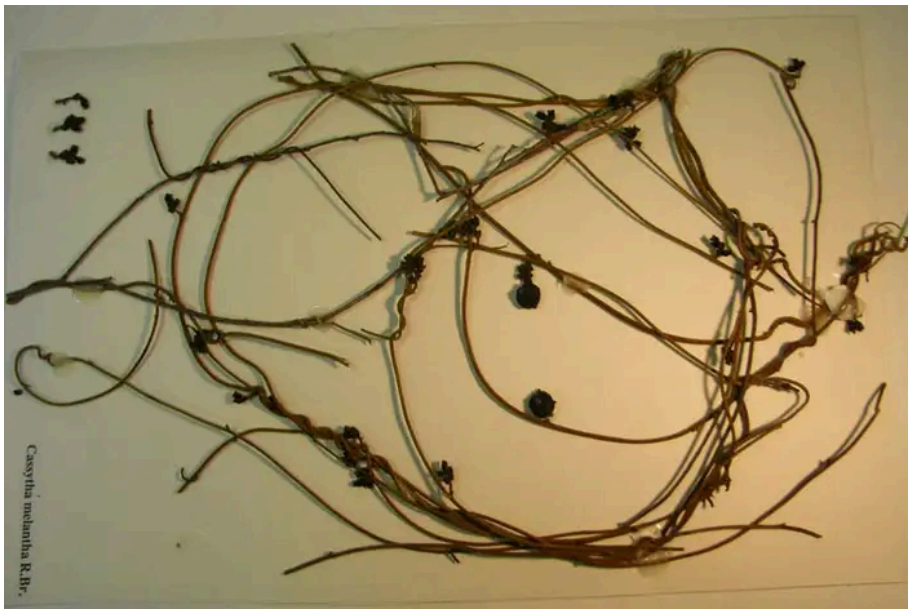
HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in open forest and woodland. It kills the host plant. It mostly grows on Eucalypts. Tasmania Herbarium.

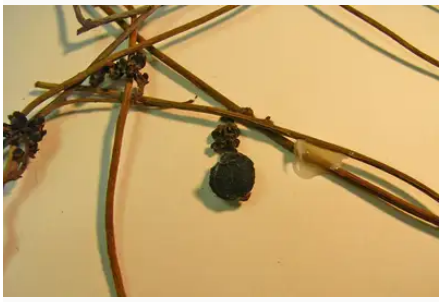
NOTES

There are 15-20 Cassytha species. Sometimes they are in the family Cassythaceae.

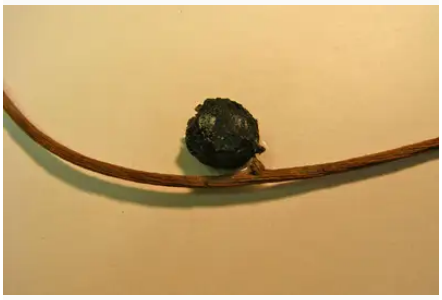
PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/c95f9eae-55fa-44be-8d1a-5b47d6ffb925