

Love Vine/Devil's Gut

Cassytha filiformis

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Vine Information

- Much noticed in 2007 as several prominent trees were infected.
- The name 'love vine' belies its intent.
- A perennial pantropic, parasitic vine
- Parasitic on a wide variety of plants but seems to favor live oak trees



Circa Edison College

Chlorotic leaves of oak



South Lee County



Nassau, Bahamas

Each growing season, it covers its host to a particular depth and accumulates dead matter. Thus, it forms a thatch layer over its host.



Fort Myers

Growing on viburnum



Flower buds

What to Do?

- The effect on some host is quite slow. The host may continue to live for many years.
- No selective herbicide treatment recommendation.
- Pruning or physical removal recommended but love vine quickly regrows under favorable conditions.

Relevant Links

- Prohibited Plants of Lee County
- Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants
- Love Vine Problem in Hawaii

Click here to connect to Stephen's web page

