

**EXERCISE # 5****PHANEROGAMIC PARASITES: CUSCUTA, STRIGA, OROBANCHE  
AND MISTLETOE**

Phanerogamic parasites are leaveless higher plants with no chlorophyll and dependent on the host plant for their nutrition. They parasitize the root or stem of the host plant through sending their haustoria into the host tissues and fulfill their nutritional requirement leaving the host plant production less.

Following are the major phanerogamic parasites:




1. Dodder (Stem Parasite)
2. Mistletoe (Stem Parasite)
3. Broom rapes (Root Parasite)
4. Witch weed (Root Parasite)

**Question # 1** What is meant by Phanerogamic parasite?

**Question # 2** How Phanerogamic parasites obtain their nutrition?

**Question # 3** What are different strategies for management of phanerogamic parasites?

## TAXONOMY OF PHANEROGAMIC PLANTS

Family	Genus (Common name)	Parasitize	Characteristics	Image
<i>Cuscutaceae</i>	Cuscuta (dodders)	Stem parasite Alfalfa, onion, potato,	Achlorophyllus, scale like leaves, white flowering and small seeds	
<u><i>Orobanchaceae</i></u>	Orobanche (broom rapes)	Root parasite tobacco	Woody stem with achlorophyllus scale like leaves, purple or reddish flowering with brown seeds.	
<i>Lauraceae</i> <i>/Viscaceae</i>	Mistletoes (Dwarf, American, European)	Conifers: stem parasite	Chlorophyllus, true leaves, pink flowering and berry like fruit with small seeds	
<i>Scrophulariaceae</i>	Striga (witch weeds) Mono-cot plant	Root Parasite	Active chlorophyll present, true stem with broad leaves, whitish pink flowering and fruit formation with small seeds	