

Black Swallowwort

Cynanchum louiseae



General Description:

- Vine: Perennial, 3-6' long, with rhizomes
- Leaves: Opposite, oval with pointed tips, 3-4" long, entire margin
- Stem: Mostly unbranched, twining
- Flowers: Purple-black, 5 petals, fleshy
- Fruit: Slender pods green to light brown with age, milkweed like

Prominent Features:

- Flowers: **purple-black**
- Twining habit vs. tendrils, aerial roots to climb
- Leaf tips taper to a point

How to Remove:

- Pull out and dig the **entire root system for small populations**

Look Alikes: Several

- Other Swallowworts: flowers are white, pink-red
- Vinca spp.: stems don't twine, leaf tips don't taper



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