

VISCACEAE – CHRISTMAS-MISTLETOE FAMILY

Plant: partially parasitic shrubs on trees; elsewhere trees

Stem: often brittle

Root:

Leaves: simple, entire, opposite or whorled, thick and leathery, mostly evergreen or yellow, some reduced; no stipules

Flowers: monoecious or dioecious; 2-4 small tepals, rarely more, often reduced; stamens equal tepals; ovary inferior, 3-4 carpels, 1 style

Fruit: berry, 1-2 seeds

Other: mostly tropical; Dicotyledons Group

Genera: 7+ genera; locally *Arceuthobium*, *Phoradendron*

VISCACEAE – CHRISTMAS-MISTLETOE FAMILY

[Oak] American Mistletoe; *Phoradendron leucarpum* (Raf.) Reveal & M.C. Johnston

[Oak] American Mistletoe

Phoradendron leucarpum (Raf.) Reveal & M.C. Johnston

Viscaceae (Christmas-Mistletoe Family)

Sam A. Baker State Park, Wayne County, Missouri

Notes: woody parasitic evergreen shrub; spherical clumps may reach 1 meter in diameter; white poisonous berry; leaves thick, opposite; spread by birds (below in sycamore but not tree specific)

[V Max Brown, 2006]

