

SANTALACEAE – SANDALWOOD FAMILY

Plant: herbs, shrubs and trees

Stem: often woody

Root:

Leaves: simple, entire, alternate or rarely opposite or reduced to scale-like structures; no stipules

Flowers: perfect or imperfect (monoecious or dioecious); no petals, mostly 4-5 sepals; mostly 4-5 stamens; ovary usually inferior, 1 style

Fruit: nut or drupe, 1 seed

Other: tropical to temperate; semi-parasitic; Dicotyledons Group

Genera: 35+ genera; locally *Comandra* (bastard toadflax)

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Bastard Toadflax; *Comandra umbellata* (L.) Nutt. ssp. *umbellata*

Bastard [Star] Toadflax

Comandra umbellata (L.) Nutt.

ssp. *umbellata*

Santalaceae (Sandalwood Family)

Oak Openings Metropark, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: sub-shrub (semi-parasitic on roots); 5-tepaled flower (no petals), white (rarely pink), in terminal clusters; leaves elliptical to oblong, tapering at both ends; upright stems from woody rhizome; variable species; spring to summer

[V Max Brown, 2007]

