The author has proved that North American dodder, *Cuscuta pentagona* Engelm. was first introduced to Japan in 1975. Since then, this weed has been extending its range in Japan from Hokkaido to the Ryukyus becoming a noxious weed in waste places and sandy coastland of all over Japan. However, it is quite possible that this species had already entered into Japan immediately after the World War II, some time around 1945, and had been naturalized locally.

Assumingly, it had been misidentified as *Cuscuta australis* R. Br. or *C. chinensis* Lam. It is most likely that the seeds of *Cuscuta pentagona* were brought into Japan mixed in various grains (e.g. soybean, wheat, corn, etc.) from the United States, since a number of naturalized plants had apparently reached Japan in this same manner. The examples are: *Ambrosia trifida* L., *Sicyos angulatus* L., *Ipomoea lacunosa* L., *Jacquemontia tammifolia* (L.) Griseb., *Torilis nodosa* (L.) Gaertn., *Sida spinosa* L., *Chorispora tenella* (Pall.) DC. and *Melilotus indica* (L.) All.

（東京歯科大学）