Black medic
*Medicago lupulina* L.

**Life cycle**
Prostrate, trailing summer annual.

**Leaves**
Alternate, compound – with three oval to egg-shaped leaflets – hairless to sparsely hairy, shallowly toothed along the upper half and tipped with a small point. The central leaflet is found on a definite stalk; the two lateral leaflets are nearly stalkless. A pair of stipules is present at the base of each petiole.

**Stems**
Prostrate, trailing to ascending stems are wiry, usually hairy, multibranched from the base and up to 2 feet long.

**Flowers and fruit**
Numerous, very small, yellow flowers are formed in dense, mostly globe-shaped, cloverlike clusters. Fruit are clusters of black, coiled, kidney- to bean-shaped, one-seeded pods.

Black medic plant.
Black medic continued

Reproduction

Seeds.

Black medic stipule.
Black medic leaf.

Black medic flower.
Black medic fruit.

Fabaceae (Legume family)