

# 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, multibranching from the base and up to 2 feet long.

## Flowers and fruit

Numerous, very small, yellow flowers are formed in dense, mostly globe-shaped, clover-like clusters. Fruit are clusters of black, coiled, kidney- to bean-shaped, one-seeded pods.



Black medic plant.

## Reproduction

Seeds.



Black medic stipule.



Black medic leaf.



Black medic flower.



Black medic fruit.

**Fabaceae (Legume family)**