

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Stems with green and ripe fruit. Photographer Jackie Miles



Fruiting stems. Australian Plant Image Index, Australian Tropical Rainforest key

## Common name

Climbing Asparagus Fern, Ferny Asparagus

## Family

Asparagaceae

## Where found

**Forest**, urban bushland, roadsides, disturbed sites, parks, gardens, and old habitations. Sydney area and the mountains to the west. Occasionally coastal south of Sydney.

## Notes

**Introduced** twiner with **wiry** climbing **perennial** stems to about 5 m long. **Rhizomatous**. Fruit fleshy. Stems hairless, spineless, or with scattered spines usually less than 5 mm long. True leaves scale-like, 0.05-0.1 cm long, **subtending** the 'leaves'. 'Leaves' in clusters of 8-15, 0.3-0.8 cm long, less than 1 mm wide, cylindrical, more or less hairless. Flowers greenish to white, with 6 'petals' each 3-4 mm long. Flowers single or paired. Flowering: spring-summer; fruits until June. Ripe fruit black or bluish black, almost round, 4-5 mm in diameter.

A Weed of National Significance. General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions all NSW. Pest plant ACT (as *Asparagus plumosa*). Noxious weed Vic.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Asparagus-plumosus> (accessed 3 January, 2021)

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