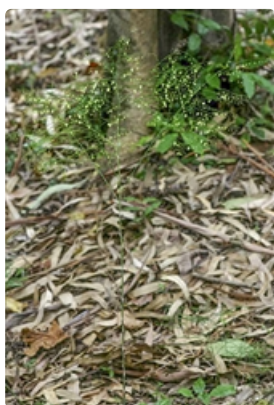


# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering plant. Leafless stem in the bottom half of photo difficult to see. Photographer Bart Wursten, Zimbabwe



Dried specimen. Missouri Botanical Garden, USA

## Common name

Asparagus Fern

## Family

Asparagaceae

## Where found

**Forest**, disturbed sites and waste areas, near habitation, and along streams. Coast, ranges, and tablelands, north of Goulburn.

## Notes

**Introduced erect perennial** herb or **shrub** to 0.8 m high. **Rhizomatous**, forming large and dense patches that replace native vegetation. Fruit fleshy. True leaves scale-like, **subtending** the 'leaves'. 'Leaves' in clusters of 3–6, 0.3–1.5 cm long, about 0.5–1 mm wide, cylindrical, hairless. Flowers greenish white, with 6 '**petals**' each 3–4 mm long. Flowers single. Flowering: chiefly spring–summer; fruits most of year. Ripe fruit orange, more or less oval, 4–6 mm in diameter.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW.

PlantNET description with photos: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Asparagus~virgatus> (accessed 4 January, 2021)

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