

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Photographer Jackie Mies, Brisbane, Qld



Seed cases and leaves. Photographer Jackie Mies, Brisbane, Qld



Plant. Photographer Jackie Mies, Brisbane, Qld

Common name

Balloon vine

Family

Sapindaceae

Where found

Rainforest margins, gullies, and creeklines. Coast and the eastern edge of the ranges north from Batemans Bay.

Notes

Introduced climber with stems to 15 m long. Stems ribbed, hairy. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 6–18 cm long, **compound**, with 9 leaflets each 2.5–8 cm long, 15–40 mm wide, margins irregularly toothed, tips pointed. Flowers functionally unisexual, with male and female flowers on the same plant. Flowers white with yellowish markings, 8–12 mm long, with 4 **petals**, in clusters. Flowering: Spring and Summer.

Its most notable feature is the balloon-like 3-angled thin-walled seed case 4–6 cm long, 3–4.5 cm wide, which contains several large black seeds with a small white **aril**.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Cardiospermum~grandiflorum> (accessed 7 January, 2021)

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