

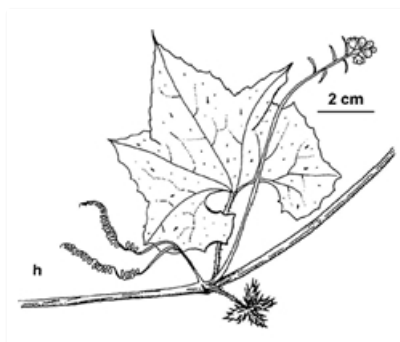
Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem with young fruit. Photographer Jackie Miles



Flowering stem. Photographer Don Wood, Mt Gulaga near Tilba Tilba



Line drawing. h. flowering branch. BM Mayfield, National Herbarium of Victoria, ©2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

Common name

Star Cucumber

Family

Cucurbitaceae

Where found

Forest, **shrubland**, and near streams. Coast and ranges.

Notes

Annual climber with stems to 10 m long. Fruit fleshy. Stems angular, sticky hairy, becoming hairless, often rough. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 4–8 cm long, 40–80 mm wide, 3–5-lobed, surfaces sparsely bristly, margins toothed, bases **cordate**. Tendrils 2- to 5-branched. Male and female flowers on the same plant. Flowers white to greenish-white, 5–6 mm in diameter, tubular, with 3–5 lobes to 3 mm long. Male flowers in 10–20 flowered clusters. Female flowers single or in 6–8 flowered **heads**. Flowers Summer to Autumn. Fruit green, oval, 7–12 mm long, covered in soft barbed spines.

Vulnerable Vic.

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

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