



Asparagus scandens

Common Name(s):

climbing asparagus

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Terrestrial. Found in lowland and coastal forest, shrublands, mature broadleaf/podocarp forests especially those of light to moderate shade, streams, coastal areas, shrublands, epiphytic niches, roadsides, gravel pits/quarries, farm hedges, house gardens and wasteland areas. Can infest unmodified and fully intact forest.

Features:

Slender scrambling or climbing perennial. Tuberous roots. Stems 2-4 m long, green and much branched at the top, thin and wiry. Leaves are flat cladodes (resembling miro), usually in threes at each node, 5-15 mm x 1-1.5 mm. Flowers tiny, whitish, Sep-Dec. Round berry, 8 mm diam, green turning orange-red, Oct-Feb, with 1-2 seeds.

Flowering:

September, October,
November, December

Fruiting:

January, May, August
(Timmins & MacKenzie
1995).

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3481



Caption: Coromandel, December
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Caption: Asparagus scandens
Photographer: Richard Hursthouse