



Bryonia cretica subsp. dioica

Common Name(s):

white bryony

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Terrestrial. Disturbed and open forest and shrubland, stream edges

Features:

Soft, summer-green, cucumber-like vine to 6 m tall, dying back in autumn to perennial tuber. Tubers brittle, branching, huge; branches 45-160 x 100- 800 cm, oriented vertical to horizontal. Stems arise from end of tuber, soft; with slender, coiling tendrils. Leaves to 15 x 15 cm, thin, 5-lobed, middle lobe longest. Flowers tubular, to 2 cm long, whitish with green stripes. Fruit round, 4-8 mm diam, smooth skinned, succulent, yellow turning red, many-seeded, 5-8 clustered.

Flowering:

December, January, February

Fruiting:

Jan-march

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3561



Caption: *Bryonia cretica* subsp. *dioica*, England

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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