



# VINES

A climbing or twining plant that usually requires a support.

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GROUND  
COVERS

2

GRASSES &  
SEDGES

3

VINES

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SHRUBS

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TREES

# WOMBAT BERRY AND BRIDAL CREEPER

## NATIVE

- Name** Wombat Berry (*Eustrephus latifolius*)  
**Family** Luzuriagaceae  
**Habit** Climber growing to several metres long.  
**Habitat** Common in moist sheltered forests, heath and woodland. It prefers fertile soils.  
**Leaves** Grows on a long green stem and its leaves are thin and flexible (about 8cm long) and have distinctive longitudinal veins.  
**Flowers** Pink flowers with fringed edges. Flowers in spring.  
**Fruit** Bright orange berries that are edible and taste similar to tangerine.



**Native Wombat Berry flower and fruit**



## WEED

- Name** Bridal Creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*)  
**Family** Asparagaceae  
**Habit** Twiner/ scrambler/ vine like herb that grows in open woodlands on fertile soil.  
**Habitat** Mostly found in sunny locations along creeklines and roadsides.  
**Leaves** 1.5cm and sharply pointed with parallel veins.  
**Flowers** Small white flowers which bloom in August to September.  
**Fruit/seed** Produces bright red berries that are quite sticky and irresistible to many birds.  
**Origin** South Africa. Introduced as a garden plant.



**Weed Bridal Creeper**



## DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

Bridal creeper leaves are much smaller (1.5cm) than Wombat Berry, and are sharply pointed with parallel veins. Bridal creeper also has an unusual root system. Has a rhizome with water storage tuberous roots. The tubers cannot grow into another plant, but the rhizome can easily sprout new leaves if it is not removed. Bridal creeper can also be distinguished by its bright red berries.

## WEED REMOVAL

Berries should be bagged and removed from the area as even if green these will still ripen after removal from the plant. In 2000 the bridal creeper rust fungus, *Puccinia myrsiphylli* was released to control this weed. If you see plants that have yellow spots on the leaves, then leave them so the rust can take over.

More info: [csiro.au/Outcomes/Safeguarding-Australia/Bridal-Creeper-Rust-Fungus.aspx](http://csiro.au/Outcomes/Safeguarding-Australia/Bridal-Creeper-Rust-Fungus.aspx)



## SLENDER GRAPE AND BALLOON VINE

### NATIVE

**Name** Slender Grape (*Cayratia clematidea*)

**Family** Vitaceae

**Habit** Herbaceous scrambler that generally grows under 1m long. Has underground stems and tubers from which new growth sprouts each spring.

**Habitat** Rainforest, humid gullies and coastal areas. It is said to be locally restricted to the Royal and Ku-ring-gai National Parks, although is spreading more due to dispersal by birds.

**Leaves** Rather fleshy hairless stem with leaves that have short sparse hairs and an opposing tendril to help it climb.

**Flowers** It has a cluster of small green flowers in summer.

**Fruit/seed** Produce 5-6mm black berries.

### WEED

**Name** Balloon Vine  
(*Cardiospermum grandiflorum*)

**Family** Sapindaceae

**Habit** Vigorous climber that will climb as long as it can grow (up to 30m). It will smother trees and shrubs by cutting off their sunlight.

**Habitat** Prefers wet sites such as creek-lines and urban drainage zones.

**Leaves** Bright green with soft hairs. The stem is covered with soft hairs (red brown) and the base stem (cream) can be up to 5cm thick.

**Flowers** Flowers most of the year. Clusters of white flowers each with four petals.

**Fruit/seed** Balloon like papery capsule with hard black seeds inside which can germinate up to and even after 18 months in the soil.

**Origin** Tropical Asia, Africa and North America.



### Native Slender Grape

Source: Coastcare Australia



### Weed Balloon Vine

### DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

Balloon vine leaves and stems have fine hairs on them where slender grape does not. Balloon vine has a distinctive papery seed capsule and is found along creeks and rivers as the seed capsule is readily carried and distributed along waterlines. Slender grape is much smaller and less dense than balloon vine growing to under 1m long.

### WEED REMOVAL

Skirting will allow vine to die in situ and reduces stress on supporting tree and fauna possibly using vine for habitat. Vine tops die off and stems attached to the soil can then be treated. Follow up will be required as will green waste disposal of viable seed pods.



# TYLOPHORA BARBATA AND HONEYSUCKLE

## NATIVE

- Name** *Tylophora barbata*  
**Family** Apocynaceae  
**Habit** Scrambling twiner that grows densely on forest floor as well as over shrubs and stumps.  
**Habitat** Found in Blue Gum High Forest or on rich soils.  
**Leaves** 2.5-6cm long  
**Flowers** Pink flowers with fringed edges. Flowers in spring.  
**Fruit** Reproduces vegetatively.



**Native *Tylophora barbata* and its flower**

## WEED

- Name** Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)  
**Family** Caprifoliaceae  
**Habit** Scrambler, climber. The vine will often twine around native plants and suffocate them.  
**Habitat** Found in a variety of locations around habitation and on the edges of rainforest and closed forest, in riparian and disturbed areas.  
**Leaves** Are opposite with a prominent ridge and 3-8cm long.  
**Flowers** Orange and white flowers that bloom in spring.  
**Fruit/seed** Produce dark shiny black berries.



**Weed Honeysuckle**

**Origin:** Asia

## DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

The berries of honeysuckle are distributed by birds and segments of vine can root at nodes to form new plants. Honeysuckle is distinguished by its orange stem and generally has a larger leaf size. *Tylophora* has a milky or watery latex in the stems. Honeysuckle is a vigorous climber and will grow upwards many metres while *Tylophora* grows along the ground and upwards only very weakly. When in flower the two have very different flowers. *Tylophora* has a small purple-red flower while honeysuckle has orange and white flowers.

## WEED REMOVAL

Care must be taken to pull up all the rooting nodes where the vine is growing along the ground to avoid reshooting. Treat root parts and skirt vine in living trees as much as possible to help the tree's chance of survival.



## WONGA WONGA VINE AND COMMON JASMINE

### NATIVE

**Name** *Wonga Wonga vine*  
(*Pandorea pandorana*)

**Family** Bignoniaceae

**Habit** Vigorous woody climber

**Habitat** Grows all along eastern NSW in varying soils and climates.

**Leaves** Compound, thick and glossy. Juvenile leaves are opposite and largely reduced in size with toothed margins.

**Flowers** Blooms in Spring.

**Seeds** Large brown pods (3-7 cm) that release papery thin seeds that are wind spread.

### WEED

**Name** Common Jasmine  
(*Jasminum polyanthum*)

**Family** Oleaceae

**Habit** Fast growing evergreen climber.

**Habitat** Grows well in heavier, more fertile soils in a moist location.

**Leaves** Compound leaves, that are dark green, dull and with wavy margins.

**Flowers** Pink to white tubular flowers that have a sweet smell and are seen in spring.

**Fruit/seed** Produce a fleshy black berry.

**Origin** China

### DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

Wonga wonga vine has glossy leaves where Jasmine has thinner duller leaves with wavy margins. The two are also distinctive when they are in seed. Wonga wonga vine has brown pods that release papery winged seeds where Jasmine has a fleshy black berry.

### WEED REMOVAL

Jasmine sends off very tough runners which can climb over fences and into bushland, choking natives as it goes. Ensure all nodes along the vine are also pulled up and skirting can be applied.



Variations of leaf shape



**Native  
Wonga-  
Wonga vine**



**Weed Common Jasmine**

## DUSKY CORAL PEA AND *DOLICHOS* PEA

### NATIVE

**Name** Dusky Coral Pea (*Kennedia rubicunda*)

**Family** Fabaceae

**Habit** A vine and robust climber.

**Habitat** Found in Blue Gum High Forest or on rich soils.

**Leaves** Leaves have rounded edges, and are pale green with small hairs.

**Flowers** Distinctive red flowers in spring.

**Fruit** Hairy long brown pods.



**Native Dusky Coral Pea**

### WEED

**Name** Dilochos pea (*Dipogon lignosus*)

**Family** Fabaceae

**Habit** Climber

**Habitat** Can be found growing on the edges of reserves, generally adjacent to housing or developed areas.

**Leaves** Thin, hairless, diamond shaped leaves the underside of which is very pale in colour.

**Flowers** Bright pink flowers, fading to mauve on long slender stalks. Flowers in spring.

**Fruit/seed** Green sickle shaped pods with black seeds.

**Origin** Africa



**Weed Dolichos pea**

### DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

Aboriginal people were known to suck the flowers of the Dusky Coral Pea for the nectar and use the vine as twine for securing things. *Dipogon lignosus* was introduced to Australia as a garden plant. It can be distinguished from the native by its thin, hairless, diamond shaped leaves. It also has bright pink to mauve (as opposed to red) coloured flowers.

### WEED REMOVAL

This vine can be weedy and suffocate natives, but generally is not as harmful to native bushland as some other weed vines.





**Native Raspberry**

Source: Hornsby Online Herbarium; Jennifer Lewis



**Weed Blackberry**

## NATIVE RASPBERRY AND BLACKBERRY

### NATIVE

- Name** Native raspberry (*Rubus sp.*)
- Family** Rosaceae
- Habit** Scrambler. Not common but when found are usually dense in growth.
- Habitat** Moist forests in valleys.
- Leaves** Much smaller, lighter in colour and have white felt on their underside. The leaves are pinnate and 3 lobed (uncommonly 5).
- Flowers** Produce small pink flowers in spring.
- Seeds** Produce a small red edible fruit which looks similar to a commercial raspberry.

### WEED

- Name** Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*)
- Family** Rosaceae
- Habit** Grows erect as a scrambling shrub and can be deciduous in winter.
- Habitat** Can grow in humid to subhumid regions with fertile soils. It can invade disturbed areas, roadsides, creek banks, orchards and forests, but cannot tolerate dense shade.
- Leaves** Has dark green leaves (new growth is lighter green). The underside of the leaf is light green and smooth to touch.
- Flowers** Produces whitish flowers in summer
- Fruit/seed** Produces a large berry that changes from green to red to black.
- Origin** Europe

### DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

The native raspberries have prickles up the stem but they are much smaller (and less painful) than blackberry. The blackberry's leaves are much larger than the native, 3 to 5 lobed and each lobe is oval shaped and serrated.

### WEED REMOVAL

The weed Blackberry can be hand removed, however the stem often breaks leaving the rhizome intact for regrowth. A virus used as a biological controls have been released on blackberry, if you see the leaves turning golden or with mould patches then a biological control is in use. This control does not completely kill blackberry but does slow its growth.



# BINDWEED AND MORNING GLORY

## NATIVE

- Name** Bindweed (*Calystegia marginata*)  
**Family** Convolvulaceae  
**Habit** A vine and robust climber.  
**Habitat** Moist gullies and rainforest margins. It is fairly widespread, though not common.  
**Leaves** Arrow shaped and can be up to 10cm long and 8cm wide.  
**Flowers** White to pale mauve flowers around 2cm long appear in spring and summer.  
**Fruit/seed** Round capsule.



**Native Bindweed**

## WEED

- Name** Morning Glory (*Ipomoea indica*)  
**Family** Convolvulaceae  
**Habit** Vigorous twining and climbing perennial.  
**Habitat** Disturbed areas, forest margins and riparian areas. Quickly colonises and under favourable conditions of full sun and ample moisture will smother all other vegetation.  
**Leaves** Large heart-shaped leaves up to 17cm long.  
**Flowers** Spectacular broad trumpet shaped blue or purple flowers (always over 5cm).  
**Fruit/seed** Capsule  
**Origin** Tropical regions of the world.



**Weed Morning Glory**

## DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

Bindweed can be confused with Morning Glory as both are twiners and have somewhat similar leaf shapes and funnel-like flower

structures. Morning Glory can be distinguished from Bindweed by the size and shape of the leaves (Ipomea leaves are much bigger, broader, rounder and heart-shaped). The leaves also may support hairs whereas the native has none. The flowers of this weed are always over 5cm compared with 2cm for the native and different in colour. Note: There is also an introduced *Calystegia*, *C. silvatica* with white flowers which is a garden escape in northern Sydney.

## WEED REMOVAL

Make sure you remove as much of the root structures of Morning Glory as possible. Small nodes (rooting points) left in the ground will re-sprout if not pulled out. If Morning Glory has reached the canopy of remnant native trees and is causing them stress use skirting method. Bindweed often smothers emerging natives at ground level. Don't feel too bad about pulling it away from other natives, as it will always grow back. It also readily seeds, and can make a rather nice hanging basket or rockery feature plant in a garden.





## LOVE CREEPERS AND VETCH

### NATIVE

**Name** Love Creepers (*Glycine sp.*)  
The three local species to Hornsby Shire are *G. clandestina*, *G. tabacina* and *G. microphylla*

**Family** Fabaceae

**Habit** Slender twiners.

**Habitat** Commonly found in moist situations, usually amongst dense undergrowth and grasses.

**Leaves** Have three leaflets which can grow up to 6cm.

**Flowers** Mauve, pea-like flowers appearing in spring and summer.

**Fruit/Seed** Generally straight pod

### WEED

**Name** Vetch (*Vicia sp.*)

**Family** Fabaceae

**Habit** Trailing or climbing herbs.

**Habitat** Usually found along roadsides, fire trails and other disturbed areas.

**Leaves** Consist of two rows of leaflets and end of a tendril.

**Flowers** Often appear throughout the year and range in colour from pink to white to purple-blue.

**Fruit/seed** Pods

**Origin** Europe/Asia



**Native Glycine, (insert) showing trifoliate leaves**



**Weed Vetch, (insert) Vetch Flowers**

### DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

Glycine species can potentially be confused with species of Vetch due to them all being of the Fabaceae or 'Pea' family, with similar slim twining habit and similar flower colour and structure. *Glycine* is quite easy to distinguish from the weed Vetch by observing its leaves. The native has three-leaflet (trifoliate) leaf structure which is quite distinct from the Vetch.

### WEED REMOVAL

Vetch is best removed by patiently tracing the stems back to the base and hand-pulling out the roots.



# MONKEY ROPE AND MOTH VINE

## NATIVE

**Name** Monkey rope  
(*Parsonsia straminea*)

**Family** Apocynaceae

**Habit** Robust rainforest climber, has woody stems many metres long.

**Habitat** Rainforest and sclerophyll forest.

**Leaves** Juvenile plants appear remarkably different from the adults, having tiny soft leaves with purple undersides. Adult leaves are opposite, hairless, tough, thick, shiny above and dull beneath.

**Flowers** Cream to pale pink flowers form in summer.

**Fruit/seed** Consists of a long, green finger-like pod containing numerous seeds, each with a tuft of silky hairs.

## WEED

**Name** Moth Plant (*Araujia sericifera*)

**Family** Asclepiadaceae

**Habit** Robust climber.

**Habitat** Disturbed environments.

**Leaves** Greyish leaves.

**Flowers** White to pale pink, 2-2.5cm in size.

**Fruit/seed** Large swollen fruit similar to a Choko. When ripe, the fruit will explode sending the 'moth' like seeds floating through the air as the hairs catch the breeze.

**Origin** South America



**Native Monkey Rope and its fruit**



**Weed Moth Vine  
and Moth Vine fruit**

## DISTINCTIVE FEATURES

The Monkey Rope can be confused with Moth Plant due to them both being extensive climbers with roughly similar shaped leaves. All parts of the moth vine plant exude a milky white sap when cut, which makes it difficult to control using

normal vine removal techniques with herbicides. A major difference between the two plants, besides the fruit, is the colour and texture of the leaves and the colour of the sap.

## WEED REMOVAL

Collect and dispose of all visible fruit, if possible. Seedlings may be hand-removed from the ground; larger, older plants using pull out easily, may need to be dug out, or else scrape the stems and paint with neat herbicide.

