

Smilax australis
(Smilacaceae)

- Common name:** Barbed-wire vine.
- Localities:** Widespread and common in the district - Brisbane River Bank, Grandview Rd, Kholo Creek, Moggill State Forest, Priors Pocket, Rafting Ground, Upper Brookfield.
- Growth form:** A perennial vine with tough, prickly stems from an underground rhizome.
- Foliage:** Leaves are simple, alternate, up to 15 cm long and 10 cm wide, prominently five-nerved; new growth is often an attractive pink to red colour.
- Flowers and fruit:** Flowers are small and in clusters, green, or white to pink. Flowers on female plants are followed by round, black berries.
- Habitat:** A common species in dry rainforest and wetter classes of eucalypt forest.
- Propagation and Management:** Seed requires some months before germination will occur. Plants are very hardy, withstanding low fertility and drought.
- General:** This species is characteristic of the district but would not normally be considered a candidate for planting in small properties. The round, black berries attract birds.

