

Tabernaemontana pandacaqui

(Apocynaceae)

Common name: Banana bush.

Localities: Gold Creek, Savages Rd, Upper Brookfield.

Growth form: A shrub or small tree to about 4 m tall.

Foliage: Leaves are simple and opposite, with short petioles, tapering at either end and up to 9 cm long.

Flowers and fruit: Flowers are scented and are single in leaf axils. They are followed by paired banana-shaped fruit which turn yellow as they mature.

Habitat: Subtropical and dry rainforest.

Propagation and Management: May be propagated from fresh seed or cuttings. Banana bush is a quick-growing shrub tolerant of infertile soils.

General: This is a very ornamental shrub which is well worth growing. Until recently, the banana bush was known as *Ervatamia angustisepala*. Despite the common name, the fruit are not edible.

