

Austrosteenisia blackii

(Fabaceae)

Common name: Blood vine.

Localities: Kholo Creek, Moggill State Forest,
Rafting Ground, Upper Brookfield.

Growth form: A tall, woody climber.

Foliage: Leaves are pinnate, with 7-11 leaflets,
the young leaves and stems covered with
rust-coloured hairs. Leaflets are up
to 9 cm long and 5 cm wide.

Flowers and fruit: Flowers are numerous and borne in showy
panicles. They are pea-shaped, dark red
in colour, about 6 mm across. Pods are
up to 12 cm long, containing 2-5 seeds.

Habitat: Subtropical rainforest, especially along
creeks or river banks, and sometimes in
dry rainforest.

**Propagation and
Management:** May be propagated from fresh seed, but
treatment with hot water may improve
germination. As this is a vigorous
climber, it should not be included in early
stages of a rainforest planting.

General: Previously known as *Kunstleria blackii*.
When the plant is cut, it exudes a red
sap, which is how it got its common name.

