

## *Cissus antarctica*

(Vitaceae)

**Common name:** Water vine.

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

**Growth form:** A robust vine, climbing by means of tendrils to considerable heights over trees or forming a scrambling mass over rocks in gullies.

**Foliage:** Leaves simple and shiny, sometimes lobed, the lobes less pronounced on older growth, up to 13 cm long and 6.5 cm wide.

**Flowers and fruit:** Flowers are small and green or brownish; the fruit is purplish, about 1.5 cm diameter, grape-like in appearance.

**Habitat:** Dry and subtropical rainforest.

**Propagation and Management:** May be propagated from stem cuttings or from fresh seed, removed from the fruit. It is a hardy species, tolerating full sun or cold, but benefits from regular watering. It can be an aggressive climber, smothering regrowth or other plantings.

**General:** The fruit attracts various fruit-eating pigeons, doves and black cockatoos in late summer, and was also eaten by Aborigines. Water vine can provide nesting sites for scrub wrens. *Cissus opaca*, the small-leaf water vine, also occurs in the district. Water vine is widely grown as an indoor plant.

