

# Jasminum polyanthum

## COMMON NAME

jasmine

## FAMILY

Oleaceae

## AUTHORITY

Jasminum polyanthum Franch.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## FEATURES

Perennial, evergreen, climbing, almost hairless, non-woody vine. Stems round, tough, very long, rooting at nodes. Leaves opposite, pinnate with usually 7 leaflets, terminal leaflet up to 7 x 2.5 cm, others smaller, all entire. Flowers clustered in panicles, tube-like, up to 25 mm diameter, very fragrant, white, pink in bud, Jan-Dec. Berries glossy black, 5-8 mm diameter, rarely formed.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Easily identified climber with opposite palmately compound leaves and fragrant pink and white flowers.

## FLOWERING

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## LIFE CYCLE

Evergreen perennial. Can spread from cuttings and grows from any small section of stem material. The viability of the seed in the seed bank is unknown (Wotherspoon 1996). In NZ, seeds were rare, but are now found on plants in some areas; produces few seeds. Sets viable seed (Fromont and King, 1992). The seed is dispersed by birds.

## YEAR NATURALISED

1980

## ORIGIN

W China

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

## TOLERANCES

The plant is intolerant of more than a few degrees of frost and only grows vigorously in warmer areas (Webb et. al. 1988). Tolerant of frost, shade and moisture. Can flower under a full canopy (Fromont and King, 1992).

## ETYMOLOGY

**jasminum**: Believed to be derived from 'ysmy'n', the Arabic name for Jasmine.



Stokes Valley. Aug 2005. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Stokes Valley. Aug 2005. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Johnson, A. T. and Smith, H. A (1986). *Plant Names Simplified: Their pronunciation, derivation and meaning*. Landsman Bookshop Ltd: Buckenhill, UK.

Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. (1988). *Flora of New Zealand, volume IV. Naturalise Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, Dicotyledons*. DSIR Botany Division. 1365pp.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/jasminum-polyanthum/>