

# Jasminum polyanthum

## COMMON NAMES

jasmine

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

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.

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## GENUS

Jasminum

## FAMILY

Oleaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Jasminum polyanthum* Franch.

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## FLOWERING

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

## YEAR NATURALISED

1980

## ORIGIN

W China

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

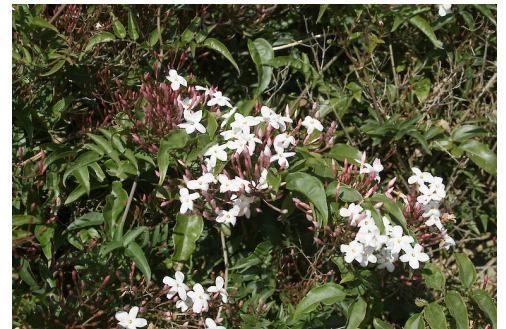
Ornamental

## 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).



Whanganui. Sep 2011. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 02/09/2011, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 23/08/2005, Licence: CC BY.

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

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.

## ETYMOLOGY

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

## ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

**This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC.** 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report [here](#).

## NVS CODE

JASPOL

## 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/>

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026