

## Rubiaceae

### *Psychotria loniceroides*

hairy psychotria



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ALA Local Natives

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#### ETYMOLOGY

(sy-CO-tree-a) Greek psyche = soul, life trepho = to support nurture; refers to powerful medial properties; The species *loniceroides* (lon-iss-er-OLD-eez) like *Lonicera* Honeysuckle

#### LIFEFORM

#### STATUS

Shrub 2m x 1m Spread  
Endemic to Bamaga, in far NE Qld to Bega in SE NSW Ecotone edge of Rainforest/Eucalyptus

#### OCCURS

Waterpark Ck N Qld, to Bega NSW, NT, WA

#### HABITAT

Dry/Subtropical Rainforest, Araucarian Microphyll/Notophyll Vine Forest

#### LEAVES

Opposite, 6-10 cm, oblanceolate, apex obtuse soft hairy; domatia present stems. Stalks and leaves softly furry or densely hairy stipules hairy mostly united into sheath around terminal bud.

#### FLOWERS

Tubular, 1 cm, white 5 star-like petals scented, 4-6 merous, staminal filaments fused to corolla, ovary inferior. **Flowering times** Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March, April, May, June

#### FRUIT

Berries, 6 mm, elliptical, hairy clear white to yellow with ribbed seeds in terminal clusters. fleshy fruit, vertebrate-adapted dispersal; **Fruiting times** March, April, May, June

#### BARK

Dark brown, fairly, smooth but with wrinkled appearance

#### TRUNK or STEM

Shrub Trunk crooked with various bumps, base of trunk is not buttressed. Branchlets hairy and relatively thick.

#### ETHNOBOTANY

Edible fruit have a slightly peppery sensation in throat.

#### TOLERANCE

Shade and part sun

#### WILDLIFE

Fruit attract fruit eating birds; Scented flowers attract butterflies; leaf cutter bees

#### NATIVE BEES

*Megachile* sp.

#### INSECTS

*Oiketicus herrichii* smooth case moth, Macroglossum errans Bee hawkmoth

#### MISTLETOES:

*Amylotheca dictyophleba*

#### BIRD

Green Catbird, Mistletoe Bird, Torresian Crow, Black-faced Cockoo-shrike, Satin Bowerbird  
Flowers visited by Silvereye, Lewin's Honeyeater (fl/fr)

#### BUTTERFLY

*Danaus affinis* black and white tiger (flower in Nov)

#### ID FEATURE

Opposite soft, hairy, leaves with lateral prominent veins, densely pubescent, domatia often present + flowers stalkless + Yellow fruit.