Apocynaceae Tabernaemontana pandacaqui

banana bush











ETYMOLOGY (Tabernaemontana) in honour of Jacob Theodore of Bergzabern, died 1590; The species

pandacaqui = After district in Luzon, Philippines

LIFEFORM Shrub 3-4m x 2m Spread

STATUS Common. Well conserved; Longevity; 20-25 years

OCCURS Burnett Heads Rd, Mt Hartley Qld to NSW, NT (NG, Mel, Mal, Philippines, PI, SE Asia)

QLD DISTRICTSBurnett, Cook, Moreton, North Kennedy, Port Curtis, Wide Bay **HABITAT**Wet sclerophyll forests, Dry and Subtropical Rainforests

LEAVES Opposite, 8-22 x 3-7 cm, oblong hairy with blunt point exudates milky sap, gland like

interpetiolar stipules or collators latex present

FLOWERS Tubular, 1.5-2 cm, white, flower lobes, scented in rotating pattern sweet perfumed in small

terminal clusters. Flowering Times Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov

FRUIT Follicles, 3-4.5 cm x 7 mm, paired elongated green turning yellow banana shaped; 3-16

seeds embedded in red sticky aril; Fruiting Times Feb, March, April

STEM Shrubs Copious milky latex in leaves and twigs.

ETHNOBOTANY Root and bark given for fevers; toxic milky sap applied to sores and ulcers.

LANDSCAPE USES Ornamental potential usage in landscaping scented flowers

INSECTS Cephonodes hylas cunnighami (coffee hawk moth), Daphnis placida (placida moth)
ID FEATURE Opposite 4-9 cm, hairless leaves + lateral veins distinct + faint reticulate + Stalk bas

Opposite 4-9 cm, hairless leaves + lateral veins distinct + faint reticulate + Stalk base with flap of tissue on upperside + milky sap + scented white flowers + Pairs of yellow banana-

shaped fruit with red sticky seeds; veins

