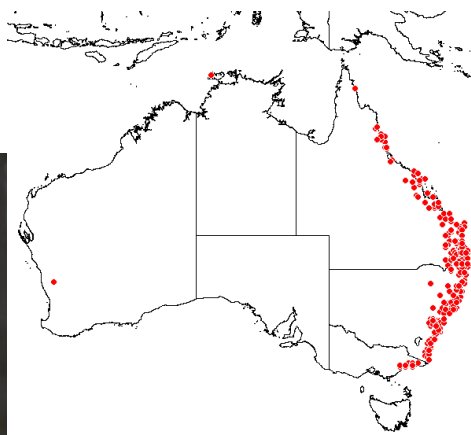


**Luzuriagaceae**  
***Geitonoplesium cymosum***  
scrambling lily

**Ann Moran**  
**Field Botanist**



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**ETYMOLOGY**

(guy-ton-o-PLÉEZ-ee-um) Greek geiton = neighbour + plesios = near; because of its close affinity to genus Luzuriaga; The species cymosum = flowers are in cymes;

**LIFEFORM**

Twiner 5-10m long

**STATUS**

Widespread Common

**ORIGIN**

Costal Qld, NSW and Vic

**HABITAT**

Open forest, Rainforest

**TOLERANCES**

Full shade – filtered sun. Moist soil

**LEAVES**

Alternate, 2-13 cm x 2-35 mm, ovate linear, lanceolate sessile dark shiny green with numerous fine longitudinal parallel veins on 0.5-1.5 mm stalks;

**FLOWERS**

White, 10-22 mm drooping pale pink, star-shaped, 5-11 mm 3 petals + 3 sepals, similar, 4-10 stamens, elliptic segments in 2 whorls, (strongly scented) inner segments lack hairs, in clusters; **Flowering Times:** Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb

**FRUIT**

Berries, 7-20 mm, fleshy globular, purple-black in clusters; Numerous black angular seeds inside pulp, testa hard, aril absent; Bird & vertebrate adapted dispersal; **Fruiting Times:** Feb, March, April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov

**ROOTS**

Fibrous roots

**STEM**

Wiry slender striate green stems

**ETHNOBOTANY**

Edible young shoots raw/cooked taste like peas, (Clockwise climber) Fruit pulp is edible. Bird attracting fruits. Decoction of leaves to treat smallpox. Stems used as rough rope for house-building in PNG. Vertebrate adapted dispersal.

**BIRD**

figbird (seen) rose-crowned fruit-dove, mistletoebird, satin bowerbird

**ID FEATURES**

Raised midrib top side of leaf; narrow form confused with *Eustrephus latifolius* (multiple parallel on underside of leaf)