Arrowhead vine
*Sygionium podophyllum*

A native of Central America, arrowhead vine is widely used in North Queensland gardens. At least 10 different cultivars have been developed by the nursery industry.

It is almost exclusively propagated by cuttings and spread by cultivation and the dumping of garden refuse. Once established, it will take root wherever its stem touches the ground.

Arrowhead vine prefers moist, shady conditions and fertile soils.

Invasive plant which can disrupt native flora communities and ecosystems.

**Description**

Arrowhead vine is a rampant creeping or climbing plant.

Its alternate, three-lobed, arrow-shaped leaves vary in size, shape and colour with age and cultivar variety. Juvenile leaves are entire with silvery-white veins or centre, bounded by green. Mature leaves are dark green and segmented into three leaflets, developing with age to 5–9 leaflets. The central leaflet is the longest.

Four to eleven flower spikes (spadixes) develop in leaf axils, each comprising 6–9 green tubular flowers, enclosed in a creamy-white to green modified leaf (a spathe), similar to that of an arum lily. Fruit is red to reddish-orange with many black or brown seeds within a soft, grey-ish pulp.

**Management**

Hand pull isolated plants and small infestations, making sure that all roots and stem fragments are removed. Plant pieces should either be bagged and taken to an appropriate waste management facility or hung up off the ground to prevent reshooting.

For more information on environmental weeds see the [Queensland Government Website](http://www.qld.gov.au).