

Asparagus densiflorus

asparagus fern



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Appearance: Evergreen perennial herb from a crown of tuberous roots, to 60 cm (2 ft) in height, with stems stiff or spreading-arching to 2 m (6 ft) long.

Leaves: Larger branches usually bearing minute axillary spines. Branchlets (cladophylls) flat, needle-like, light bright green, to 2.5 cm (1 in) long; clustered at branch nodes. Leaves tiny, scalelike, at bases of branchlets.

Flowers: Small, white to pinkish, and fragrant.

Fruit: Bright red berry about 8 mm (< 1 in) in diameter; 3 seeds per fruit.

Ecological threat:

Found in large colonies, displacing native ground cover and understory shrubs. Has escaped into tropical hammocks in Palm Beach County, overtopping young native plants such as wild coffee. FLEPPC Category I



Distribution: C, SW, SE

Field Notations

ASPADENS/ASDE12

<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>