

# Asparagus Fern

*Asparagus densiflorus*



**Do not  
plant this  
in your yard!**



Asparagus fern is a highly invasive perennial plant often used as a ground cover. It is considered invasive in 9 countries.

Deep and extensive root systems make asparagus fern extremely difficult to remove.



**High Risk**

### **Description:**

Asparagus fern is not a true fern and doesn't have true leaves. Instead it has bunches of many tiny cladophylls, which are grouped together thickly along slightly woody branches. The branches grow upright or creep along the ground, and can grow several feet long.

### **Flower:**

Clusters of small pale-pink or white flowers, with orange anthers emerging from the center.

### **Fruit:**

A red or white fruit containing one to a few seeds.

### **Impacts and Harm:**

Asparagus fern smothers the vegetation around it. Its shade-tolerant nature and bird-friendly fruits make it an invader which can grow in places far from where it was planted. In native forests, it overtakes native keiki plants, preventing forest regeneration.

### **Plant this instead:**



*Chinese Evergreen (Aglaonema commutatum)*