

# Mile-a-minute vine look alike

Mile-a-minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliata* / *Polygonum perfoliatum*) may be confused with our native tearthumbs (*Persicaria arifolia* / *Polygonum arifolium* and *Persicaria sagittata* / *Polygonum sagittatum*). These vines all have weak, prickly stems and triangular leaves.



Mile-a-minute vine **stems are reddish and covered in barbs**. **Leaves are equilateral triangles** with barbs on the undersides. **Cup-shaped** leaves along the stem are below clusters of flowers and then **pea-size metallic blue fruits**.



Native tearthumbs have **bristles along the stems**. Leaves are **triangular to arrowhead-shaped**, with lower leaves having triangular lobes at the base. The leaves below flower clusters are **lance-shaped**. Fruits are dry seeds.