**Jasminum dichotomum** Vahl

Common Name: Gold Coast jasmine  
Synonymy: None  
Origin: Tropical west Africa  
Botanical Description: Scrambling shrub or woody climber, evergreen, to 8 m (26 ft) tall, with climbing stems longer; and glabrous. Leaves opposite, appearing simple (unifoliolate), oval to roundish oblong, glossy, leathery, 5-7 cm (2-4 in) long, with short-pointed tips. Flowers white (pink in bud), quite fragrant, opening at night, in clusters at leaf axils; petals fused into a narrow tube to 2.5 cm (1 in) long, with 5-9 terminal lobes about 1.3 cm (0.5 in) long, spreading in star-shaped fashion. Fruit a small, fleshy, roundish, black, 2-lobed berry.  
NOTE: Without flowers or fruits present, may be confused with the native snowberry, *Chiococca alba* (L.) A. Hitchc., but its opposite leaves joined at the nodes by a stipular line scar.  
Distribution: One of 7 species of nonnative jasmines naturalized in Florida. In Florida, documented as invading scrub, mesic flatwoods, tropical hardwood hammocks, and ruderal communities. Documented by herbarium specimens in Highlands, St. Lucie, Lee, Collier, Broward, Monroe, and Miami-Dade counties (Wunderlin and Hansen 2004). Reported in natural areas from Hillsborough and Palm Beach counties (FLEPPC 2005).  
Life History: Restricted to areas with average minimum temperatures above 1.7ºC (35ºF) (Broschat and Meerow 1991). Easy to grow, propagated in cultivation from cuttings, may not tolerate soggy root zones (Chabot 1952). Will grow near coasts where protected from salt spray (Menninger 1964). Flowers all year, most abundantly in spring. Ripe fruit found from early summer into early winter (Hammer 1996a). Seeds dispersed by birds and raccoons, with dense plots of seedlings often seen arising from raccoon droppings (Hammer 1996a).