

Passiflora tarminiana

COMMON NAME

banana passionfruit

FAMILY

Passifloraceae

AUTHORITY

Passiflora tarminiana Coppens & V.E.Barney

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Lowland and coastal shrubland, margins of remnant forest stands, light gaps, roadsides, wasteland, farm and orchard hedges windbreaks, plantations.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Vigorous vine, often high-climbing. Stems with small stipules that do not persist long on mature stems. Leaves 3-lobed up to 12 cm long, without hairs on either surface. Flower with short tube (up to 6 cm) with a prominent nectary chamber and widely reflexed pale pink petals. Fruit slender and fusiform, up to 9 cm long. Green with small clear spots ripening to yellowish-orange, pulp orange, sweet and edible. Seed 4-5mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

Can be separated from other *Passiflora* species, by the three-lobed leaves without hairs, and the absence of stipules on mature stems. When flowering, *P. tarminiana* has a hypanthium/sepal ratio of 1.3-1.6 and a nectary chamber 1.4-2.0 cm wide.

FLOWERING

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Seed bank viability may be up to 2 years. Reproduces by seed and some vegetative reproduction is possible by suckering stems touching bare soil. Many viable seeds are produced in each fruit. Possums and birds, primarily blackbirds, feed on fleshy fruit (Fromont and King, 1992).

YEAR NATURALISED

1970

ORIGIN

N Andes

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Agricultural



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TOLERANCES

Slightly tolerant to shade, intolerant to frost, moderately tolerant to moisture ranges.

ETYMOLOGY

passiflora: Passionflower

NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord. The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](#).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan, P.B.; Sykes, W.R. 2003. *Passiflora* (Passifloraceae) in New Zealand: a revised key with notes on distribution. *NZ Journal of Botany* 41: 217-221. DOI: [10.1080/0028825X.2003.9512842](https://doi.org/10.1080/0028825X.2003.9512842)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/passiflora-tarminiana/>