

SPECIES: *PASSIFLORA MOLLISSIMA*

COMMON NAME: BANANA PASSION FRUIT

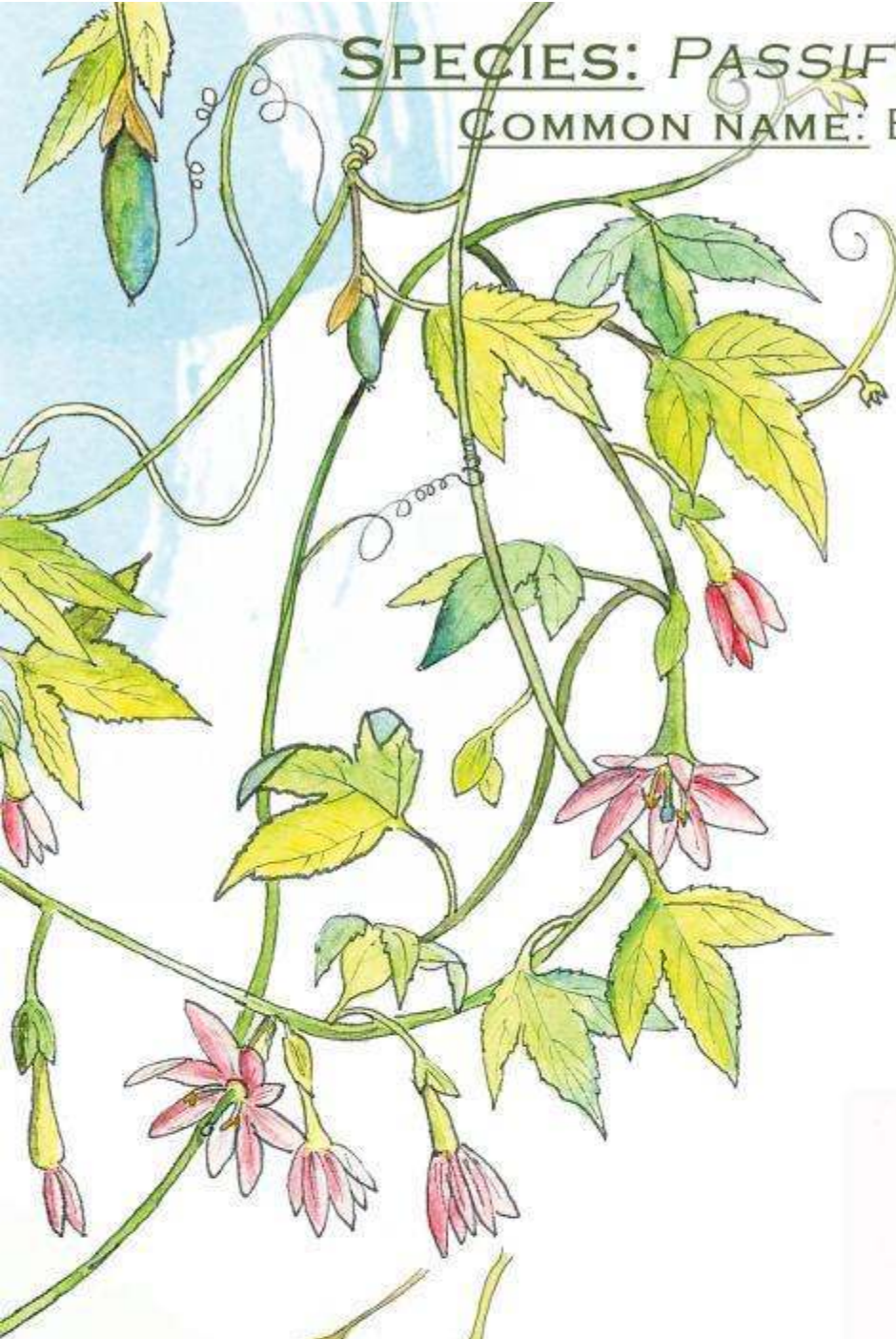
FAMILY: PASSIFLORACEAE

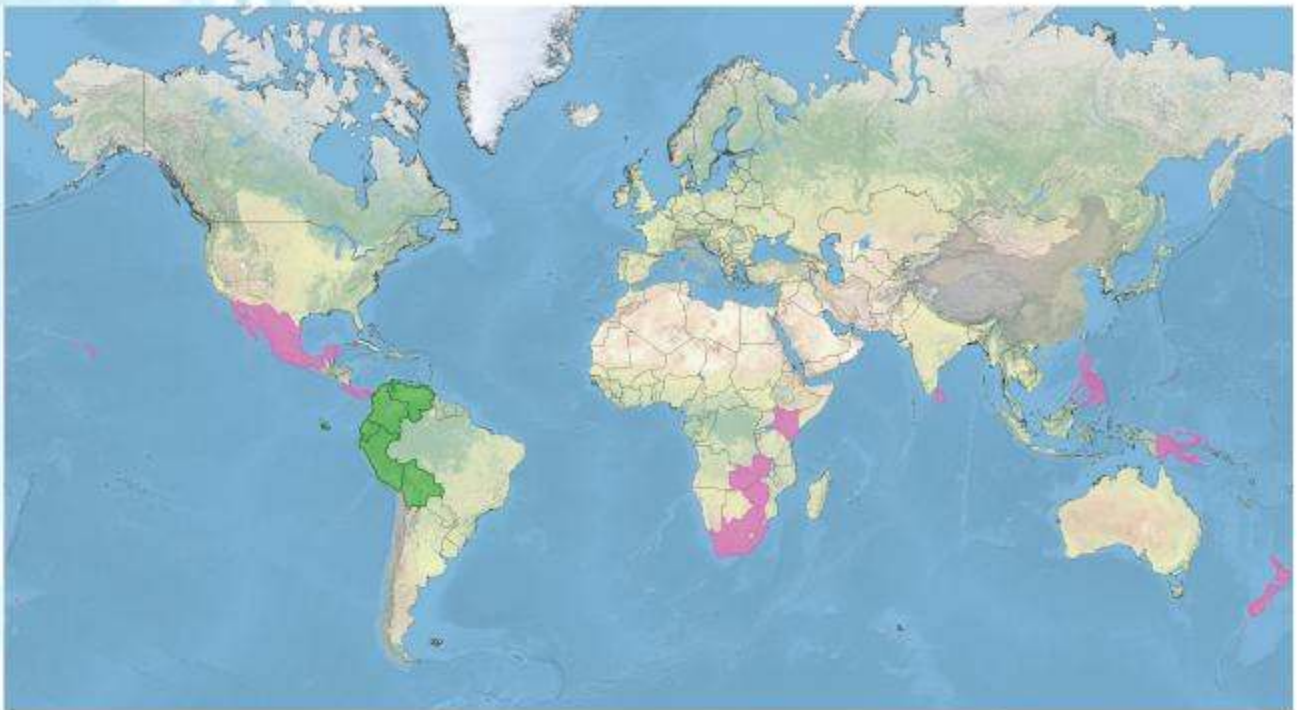
Plant Description

A perennial woody vine with a long cylindrical stems, bearing tendrils. The stem can grow up to a height of 10 m or more. Leaves are 3-lobed, and covered in fine hairs.

The flowers are downward facing, large (6-9 cm in diameter) and showy, in shades of pink. Fruit are banana-like, yellow or yellow-orange in colour, 8-15 cm long and 3-4 cm wide.

The fruit has shiny orange pulp and numerous small, flat, black seeds, which are dispersed by animals.





CABI, 2022. *Passiflora tripartita* var. *mollissima*. In: Invasive Species Compendium. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/38802#toDistributionMaps> [accessed: 25/01/2022]

■ Introduced
■ Native
■ Origin not recorded

Note: Although not depicted on this map, the plant is considered invasive in India.

***Passiflora mollissima* (also known as *Passiflora tripartita* var. *mollissima*) PASSIFLORACEAE**

Origin: Tropical South America

Introduction: The plant was introduced as an ornamental plant and also for its edible fruit.

Impacts: It can grow densely and rapidly over trees, fully covering them. It is also reported to break the branches of trees by weighing them down, and to cause trees to topple in the case of storms. Dense mats of this vine can cover the understory, affecting the regeneration of trees and the growth of shrubs.

Management: Mechanical removal has to be done by digging out the whole plant. In some countries, cutting combined with herbicide application has been shown to be effective.