

# 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

## HABITAT

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

## FEATURES

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 hypanthium/sepal ration 1.3-1.6 and 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

## YEAR NATURALISED

1970

## ORIGIN

N Andes

## ETYMOLOGY

**passiflora:** Passionflower



Wanganui. Jan 2005. Photographer: Colin Ogle



Wanganui. Jan 2005. Photographer: Colin Ogle

**Reason For Introduction**

Agricultural

**Life Cycle Comments**

Perennial. Seed bank viability may be up to 2 years.

**Reproduction**

Reproduces by seed and some vegetative reproduction is possible by suckering stems touching bare soil.

**Seed**

Many viable seeds are produced in each fruit.

**Dispersal**

Possums and birds, primarily blackbirds, feed on fleshy fruit (Fromont and King, 1992).

**Tolerances**

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

**REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING**

Heenan, PB; Sykes, WR 2003. *Passiflora* (Passifloraceae) in New Zealand: a revised key with notes on distribution. *NZ J 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/>