

THE "BANANA" PASSION FRUIT

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THIS Passion fruit (*Tacsonia mixta* Juss.) is a perennial climber native of Peru and bears handsome pink, pendulous flowers and oblong fruits six to eight inches long. The fruits contain a pulp similar to that of the Passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis* Sims) which belongs to the same Natural Order, and are yellow when ripe and weigh, on an average, three ounces each.

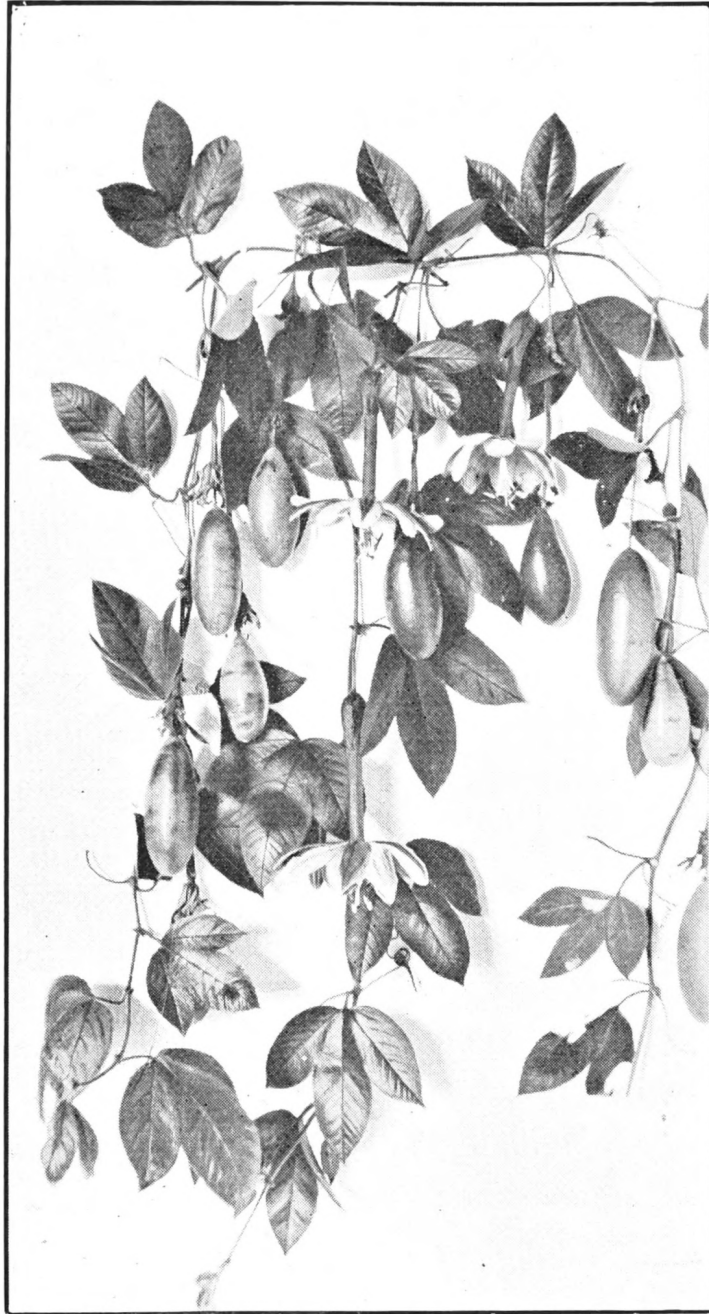
It bears well at elevations from 5,000 feet upwards and is recommended not only for its fruit, but also as a handsome flowering climber which should be grown in every garden up-country where flowering climbers are so scarce.

It is propagated by seed and should be grown in well-drained soil enriched with cattle manure, and, preferably, on a fence or trellis-work where it can be kept under control and the fruits conveniently gathered. If allowed to ramble over trees it attains a height of thirty to forty feet.

The chief fruiting season is during September-November, although a few fruits are generally available throughout the year.

Interest is now being taken in the cultivation of this fruit and plants are being sent out from Hakgala for distribution among the villagers.

The photograph shows the fruits and flowers.



Photo

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