

Banana passionfruit (*Passiflora mollissima*)



Foliage and flowers



Flower and fruit

Banana passionfruit is a tall climbing vine that grows equally well in forest and shrubland margins and in domestic gardens, farm hedges and along roadsides. Fertile soil and warm conditions encourage its growth.

Banana passionfruit produces large pink tubular flowers throughout the year. These develop into oval fruit that turn yellow to orange-yellow when ripe. It is often confused with northern banana passionfruit which is very similar. The main difference between them is the length of the floral tube, which is longer in northern banana passionfruit (4-6.5 cm). Both passionfruits are pest plants. Possums and birds eat the fruit and therefore help the seed to spread.

Small plants should be hand pulled or dug out at the roots and then mulched, composted or otherwise disposed of safely. Vines growing over other plants should be cut and the cut stumps of the rooted main stems painted with herbicide.

Contact your Regional Council for advice on control methods.