



ARIZONA-SONORA  
DESERT  
MUSEUM

## ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Passion Flower or Sandia de la Pasión

*Passiflora arida*

**DESCRIPTION:** This species of passion flower vine is from southern Arizona, Sonora, and Baja California where it can be found in washes and canyons. It has become naturalized around Tucson. It is occasionally seen in the nursery trade, and is often misnamed as *Passiflora foetida*. A rapid grower and climber, it produces its abundant, intricately shaped flowers and lace-enclosed fruit throughout the growing season. The lavender and white flowers are open only during the middle of the day. This vine can grow to 15 feet or more in a season. Passion Flower is a favored larval plant for the Gulf Fritillary butterfly and flowers are visited by carpenter bees.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** A good summer cover for fences or trellises. It will also climb into shrubs and trees. Passion Flower, however, is aggressive and heavy enough to overwhelm a small shrub or tree, so control may be necessary.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** Evergreen unless frozen; roots are hardy to at least the mid-20's.



**Sun tolerance:** Full sun to moderate shade.



**Watering and feeding:** Water more frequently if in full sun, and during the hottest periods. Drought tolerant but will not grow unless soil is moist.



**Soil requirements** It will tolerate a variety of soils, but well-drained is best for the Passion Flower.



**Pruning:** In early spring, prune to remove frost damage or to reduce size.