PLANT FACT SHEET

Passiflora caerulea L.

GENUS *Passiflora* **FAMILY** Passifloraceae

COMMON NAMES Blue passionflower, Blue crown passionflower

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Flowers, Stem, Leaves

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh and used to flavour drinks. They are also used for marmalade.
Unripe fruit are boiled and eaten.
The flowers can be made into syrup.
The tender stems and leaves are used as a potherb.

DESCRIPTION

A climber which can be 10 m long. It climbs by tendrils. The leaves are divided and finger like. They are dark green. Flowers can be white, pink or blue. They are 8-10 cm wide. The fruit is oval and yellowish orange. They are 4-7 cm long. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical climate plant. It grows naturally on the edges of secondary vegetation in eastern Brazil. They can grow in temperatures down to -9°C. Plants can re-grow from underground roots. It prefers plenty of water, moist soil and warm conditions. It grows to 34°S in Argentina. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 2,000 m above sea level. In XTBG Yunnan. It suits hardiness zones 7-10. In Sichuan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are mostly grown from seed. They can be grown from cuttings. Bottom heating the seeds at 20-26°C can result in germination at 1-2 weeks, at lower temperatures seeds can take up to 10 weeks to germinate. Plants should be topped back for better fruit production.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is very fast growing.

NOTES

There are about 400 Passiflora species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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