

## Passifloraceae

### *Passiflora herbertiana* ssp *herbertiana*

native or orange/yellow passionflower

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#### ETYMOLOGY

(pas-ee-FLOR-a) resemblance of central parts of flower to elements of crucifixion; The species herbertiana = After Lady Carnarvon (maiden names **Herbert**);

#### LIFEFORM

Vine 4m long

#### STATUS

Occurs coastal Queensland to Northern NSW;

#### OCCURS

Gympie Q, to Narooma NSW

#### HABITAT

Rainforest, Gullies

#### LEAVES

Alternate, 3 broadly triangular 3-5 lobes occasionally none, slightly hairy on both sides with 2 large glands near base of leaf.

#### FLOWERS

Cream, 7 cm open pale yellow or greenish ageing to orange and red; **Flowering times** June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec

#### FRUIT

Berries, 4-7 cm, ellipsoid, obscurely 3-sided white spotted green, hollow and inflated; Ripens sporadically (Jones & Gray 1988) Edible sweet smelling when ripe; **Fruiting times** April, May, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov

#### ROOTS

Resprouts from rootstock

#### STEM

Short lived climber with hairy leaves; simple unbranching axillary tendrils;

#### ETHNOBOTANY

**Bush Food** Fruit doesn't change colour as it ripens. Test if ripe and ready for eating by the way it softens. It must be quite soft and squashy for the best flavour. If picked at the right time it is delicious. (Toowoomba Plants)

#### BEES

*Apis mellifera* European Honeybees feed on flower nectar

#### FOOD FOR

Grey-headed Flying Fox, *Scolypopa australis* passion-vine hopper, Small black ants feed on petiolar glands near base of leaf.

#### BUTTERFLY

*Acaea andromacha* glasswing, *Vindula arsinoe* crusier,

#### ID FEATURE

Easily confused with exotic planted species; Two obvious small glands at base of leaf on either side of leaf stalk.; Stems covered with short fine hairs; Confined to edges of rainforest, moist hardwood forest and gullies;