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Annona montana

[Synonyms : *Annona marcgravii*, *Annona muricata*, *Annona pisonis*, *Annona sphaerocarpa*]
MOUNTAIN SOURSOP is a tree. Native to the Caribbean and Amazonia in northern South America it has dark green fruit studded with many short fleshy ‘spines’.

It is also known as *Araticú* (Brazilian, Portuguese), *Araticum* (Portuguese), *Araticum-açú* (Portuguese), *Araticum-apé* (Portuguese), *Araticum de paca* (Portuguese), *Araticum-ponhe* (Portuguese), *Araticunzeiro* (Brazilian, Portuguese), *Araxy* (Waimiri Atroari South American Indians), *Boszuurzak* (Dutch, Surinamese), *Cachiman morveux* (French), *Cimarron* (Cuban, Peruvian, Venezuelan), *Cimarrón* (Spanish), *Corossolier bâtard* (French), *Corossol zombi* (French, Haitian), *Guanábana cimarrona* (Spanish), *Guanábana de las montañas* (Spanish), *Guanábana de loma* (Spanish), *Guanábana de monte* (Spanish), *Guanábana de perro* (Spanish), *Schleimapfel* (German), *Shan ci fan li zhi* (Chinese), *Taragua* (Spanish, Venezuelan), *Taragus* (Spanish), Wild guanabana, Wild soursop, and *Yama toge banreishi* (Japanese).

Montana is derived from Latin *mons* (mountain) meaning ‘of or from mountains’.

Some local South American Indian tribes have used the leaves to impregnate bath water to ease influenza symptoms – and in French Guiana creole medicine employed a leaf decoction as a sedative.

Mountain soursop is cultivated locally and its juicy fruit are eaten although many people view it as inedible. In Brazil however it does provide an unusual delicacy. There the stalk and the strongly attached firm core is pulled out from the base of the fruit and the firm core is eaten but the rest of the fruit is discarded.

Birds, particularly some parrots, enjoy the fruit even if most humans seem to view it with disparagement.