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Heliconia psittacorum

[Synonyms : *Bihai cannoidea*, *Bihai humilis*, *Bihai psittacorum*, *Bihai sylvestris*, *Heliconia andrewsii*, *Heliconia bahiensis*, *Heliconia ballia*, *Heliconia brasiliensis* var. *concolor*, *Heliconia cannoidea*, *Heliconia goiasensis*, *Heliconia hirsuta* var. *cannoidea*, *Heliconia humilis*, *Heliconia marantifolia*, *Heliconia psittacorum* var. *rhizomatosa*, *Heliconia psittacorum* var. *robusta*, *Heliconia psittacorum* var. *spathacea*, *Heliconia schomburgkiana*, *Heliconia swartziana*, *Heliconia sylvestris*, *Musa humilis*]

PARROT'S PLANTAIN is an evergreen perennial. Native to tropical America, south-eastern Asia and to Polynesia, it has huge green leaves borne on trunk-like leaf-stalks. It is also known as Japanese canna, Parakeetflower, Parrot's beak heliconia, Parrot's flower, Wild banana, and Wild plantain.

The few small, purple flowers are attractive to humming birds.

Psittacorum is derived from Greek *psittacin-* (parrot) or Latin *psittaci* (parrot) meaning 'of parrots'.