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Passiflora coccinea

[Synonyms : *Passiflora fulgens*, *Passiflora velutina*, *Tacsonia pubescens*]

SCARLET PASSIONFLOWER is an evergreen climbing vine. Native to Guyana, French Guiana, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil and southern Venezuela, it has yellow, scarlet, pale pink to white and deep purple flowers.

It is also known as *Costada sacha* (Amazonian), *Granadilla agria* (Amazonian), *Granadilla venenosa* (Amazonian), *Grenadille à fleurs rouges* (French), *Liane serpent* (French), Monkey guzzle, *Passiflore écarlate* (French), Red granadilla, Red passiflora, Red passion flower, Red star, and *Snekie marcoesa* (Dutch).

The flowers are pollinated by butterflies.

Coccinea means 'scarlet'.

Even though many authorities seem to descry the small aromatic mottled, green striped orange or yellow fruit, they are eaten and are said to have a slightly acid taste.

The vine is cultivated as an ornamental plant.

Medicinally, in Amazonia the fruit and flowers has offered a treatment for fever and for some eye problems. In the Caribbean monkey guzzle has been used to treat sleeplessness.