

Passiflora poslae J Vanderplank & R Boender 2008

Subgenus *Passiflora* Supersection *Stipulata* Section *Granadillastrum*

Distribution : Pérou.

Roots fibrous. Stem strong, terete, glabrous, pale green. Tendrils terete, glabrous, strong, 15 – 24 cm long. Stipules capillary or linear-subulate 2 – 3 mm long, pale green, nonglandular. Petiole terete, papillose, adaxial surface grooved with two globose sessile nectar bearing glands mid-way, 1.0 – 3 cm long. Leaves coriaceous, glabrous, pale green, adaxial lamina lustrous, 8.5 – 18 cm long, 3.2 – 7.2 cm wide, margin entire, caudate at apex for 1.1 – 1.6 cm with two deep yellow crescent-shaped egg mimics at the tip that are visible on both surfaces of the lamina, with a capillary awn 0.5 mm long; the egg mimics are most prominent in vigorous fertile shoots when viewed from above; on both edges of the leaf blade within 15 mm of the apex are 3 or 4 flattened sessile nectar bearing micro-glands which are only active in maturing leaves; in older leaves when the nectar glands have ceased functioning the leaf tip becomes bent or hooked. Peduncle solitary, erect, stout, terete, pale green. Bracts 3, free, pale yellow-green, glabrous, ovate, 2.8 – 4.6 cm long,



MAURITIUS VECCHIA PINXIT A.D. MMXIV ©

1.1 – 2.1 cm wide, shallowly concave with yellow shallowly crenate margin, the margin with 10 – 16 (– 20) yellow nectar glands, usually 1 gland for each crenation, not deciduous until fruit fall. Stipe terete, 4 – 6 mm long. Flowers showy, large and fragrant, white and reddish mauve, erect, opening at dawn and closing in the late afternoon, anthesis usually one or two hours before midday. Hypanthium 0.9 – 1.3 cm diameter, campanulate, glaucous, pale green. Sepals fleshy, linear-lanceolate, 2.6 – 4.2 cm long, 0.7 – 1.5 cm wide, adaxial surface white sometimes with a very pale pink tinge, abaxial surface pale green, greenish-white or cream sometimes with a pink tinge, keeled, terminating in a short sepal awn 2 – 5 mm long. Petals delicate, linear-lanceolate, white both sides but sometimes with a pink tinge, 2.6 – 4.3 cm long, 0.6 – 1.1 cm wide. Corona filaments in 8 or 9 series, outer two filiform, 3.0 – 3.5 cm long, proximal 3 – 5 mm white next 5 – 7 mm mauve or reddish mauve, distal 2.0 – 2.7 cm white crispate towards apex, next 2 or 3 series filiform 3 – 5 mm held almost horizontally above first two series, white with a mauve tip, inner 4 series, filiform, held increasingly more upright with the innermost series held closewhite, membranous in lower third and curved towards and above limen then free filaments for upper two-thirds. Limen white, cupuliform on the androgynophore, 5mm above its base. Nectar ring white, with raised triangular annulus. Androgynophore widening at base, 14 – 18 mm from attachment to base of calyx to free portion of stamens, cream or yellowish pink. Staminal filaments pale green with a few small purple spots towards base. Anthers white edged with pale yellow on adaxial surface. Pollen deep yellow, the pollen grains zonate, geminate and heterocolpate, anastomosing at the poles, with three pairs of colpi at the equator. Ovary pale green or cream, globose or sub-globose, 3 – 4 mm diameter. Style cream, 10 – 12 mm long. Stigma olive green. Fruit pendulous, sub-globose, hard shelled, pale sage-green, yellowing slightly from the distal end when ripe, 3.5 – 7.0 cm in diameter and 3.0 – 5.8 cm in length. Exocarp shell thin, less than 1mm thick. Mesocarp white, spongy 2 – 3 mm thick. Endocarp a thin translucent bag. Funicle white, 6mm long, in scattered rows. Arils clear white, juicy with taste of citrus. Seed slightly asymmetrical, obovate, highly compressed with crenulate margin, middle slightly convex with reticulate-foveate surface, 7mm long 4mm wide, apex rounded with nipple-shaped chalazal beak, obtuse or bidentate at base, chocolate-brown when fresh, seed per fruit 81 – 93. Germination epigeal.

