



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Passionfruit

*Passiflora edulis*

**DESCRIPTION:** Passionfruit can be a bountiful backyard crop. It has large white and purple flowers and purple-black mouthwatering fruit, which it produces without a pollinating variety, so there's no need to grow two vines. Give the vine space to climb. One passionfruit can reach at least 8' across and as high. If you want to grow a vine along a sunny wall or fence, install some wire, trellis or mesh as support for its tendrils. It can take 12–18 months for a newly planted vine to reach fruiting size, although some flowers may be produced in summer or early autumn.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** An ideal spot to grow a vine is along a wire fence, across a balcony, or over a pergola where they provide year-round shade. If you've only got a balcony or patio to work with, fear not: you can still grow your own passionfruit by planting in a large pot that will allow the fruit's roots to grow.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** Passionfruit vines are best suited to subtropical and temperate regions, but they will adapt to other areas as long as they're protected from frost. Mound mulch around the base in the fall to protect against temperatures below 30°F.



**Sun tolerance:** For good growth and lots of fruit, plant in an area with morning sun and light afternoon shade.



**Watering and feeding:** Moderate water requirements. Passionfruit thrive on a diet any fertilizer designed to encourage flowering and fruiting, such as citrus food. Apply fertilizer in spring and then every four weeks through summer.



**Soil requirements:** Best in deep loamy soil. Passionfruit vines develop extensive root systems to fuel all that growth and fruit production, so allow plenty of room for roots to grow.



**Pruning:** Although passionfruit do not require special pruning techniques to produce fruit, they are pruned to control their size and spread. Pruned vines also produce strong new growth that in turn produces fruit.