



<b>Scientific Name</b>	<i>Bignonia unguis-cacti</i> L. Miers
<b>Common Names</b>	Cat's claw creeper, Funnel creeper, or Cat's claw trumpet
<b>Family</b>	Bignoniaceae
<b>Plant description</b>	<i>Bignonia unguis-cacti</i> , also known as <i>Dolichandra unguis-cacti</i> , is a liana with semipersistent foliage and woody stems that can reach a height of 30 metres (98 ft). Thin and small aerial roots are used for climbing. Leaves are dark green, opposite and bifoliate. Flowers are yellow and trumpet-shaped that have a diameter of 4 to 5 cm (1.6 to 2.0 inches) and can grow alone or in clusters. Fruits are brown, linear and flattened capsules up to 50cm long. Each capsule contains 100 to 200 winged seeds. The plant is said to be "one of the most destructive exotic vines"

<b>Distribution</b>	This species is native to the tropical dry forest of Central America, South America (Mexico to Brazil and northern Argentina) and the Caribbean. It is naturalised in Australia, southeastern US, southern Africa, tropical Asia. It also grows in orchards and gardens, roadsides and grasslands, in open urban areas, especially in temperate to subtropical regions with medium to high rainfall.
<b>Uses</b>	Its use has been documented as an antidote for snake bites in folk medicine. It has antipyretic, antitrypanosomal, antitumoral and anti-inflammatory properties. It has been used for the treatment of dermatitis, intestinal ailments, venereal disease, rheumatism, dysentery, malaria and oliguria.
<b>Flowering and Fruiting time</b>	Late spring to early summer