

# Monkey's-Comb Vine

*Pithecoctenium crucigerum*



An evergreen to semi-evergreen vine with 3 soft leaflets - the middle one often becoming a tendril that helps support the plant. In late spring, beautiful blooms of creamy white flowers with yellow throats arise vertically and arch over to face out from the plant, making for a very showy display. As the flowers mature they darken so that each flower is entirely yellow. Plant in full sun or part shade, with moderate watering. Remains evergreen to 30-32° F and stems are hardy to mid 20's ° F. This plant is native from southern Mexico south to Brazil. The common name Monkey's-comb is in reference to the spiny fruit that can develop which could be used as a comb, but we have never seen our plants produce this fruit here. After a heavy bloom late spring, it may bloom sporadically through the summer and fall.