

Colocasia esculenta

(Elephant Ear, Taro)

Taro is a large herbaceous, evergreen perennial, that has large green leaves, that are heart-shaped.

Usually this plant is grown for its starchy edible bulb-like root.

Usually grows in shade or partial sun, and can tolerate wet sites.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Colocase comestible, Songe

Arabic Name: قلقاس

Pronunciation: kol-oh-KAY-see-uh es-kew-LEN-tuh

Plant Type: Groundcover

Origin: Eastern Asia, India

Heat Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Hardiness Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13

Uses: Specimen, Border Plant, Indoor, Container, Water/Rain Garden

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast

Tree Shape: Spreading

Canopy Texture: Coarse

Height at Maturity: 1 to 1.5 m

Spread at Maturity: 0.5 to 1 meter, 1 to 1.5 meters

Colocasia esculenta

(Elephant Ear, Taro)



Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

- Leaf Venation: Pinnate
- Leaf Persistence: Evergreen
- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Blade: Over 80 cm
- Leaf Shape: Ovate
- Leaf Margins: Undulate, Entire
- Leaf Textures: Rough
- Leaf Scent: No Fragrance
- Color(growing season): Green
- Color(changing season): Green

Flower

- Flower Showiness: False
- Flower Size Range: Over 20
- Flower Type: Solitary
- Flower Scent: Pleasant
- Flower Color: Yellow, White

Fruit

- Fruit Showiness: False
- Fruit Colors: Orange, Red

Colocasia esculenta

(Elephant Ear, Taro)



Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: High, Moderate

Light Requirements: Part

Management

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Little needed, to develop a strong structure

Edible Parts: Roots

Plant Propagations: Division

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image