

## 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

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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

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Leaf Image

### Horticulture Management

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#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** No

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

**Water Requirements:** High, Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Part

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#### 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

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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image