

## Musa spp.

### (Banana)

Banana is short lived herbaceous plants with large rhizomes. Banana recognized by its large, fleshy, upright stalks topped with soft, smooth, arching leaves. Ranging from 1 m for the dwarf species to over 5-6 m for the largest types, Banana "trees" are guaranteed to lend a tropical flavor to any landscape setting. The broad, tender leaves are easily torn by winds and plants should be located in a sheltered area to prevent this. The unusual reddish-purple flowers are followed by clusters of upwardly-pointing green fruit, maturing to a beautiful yellow. After the fruit appears the plant dies back. If we cut the trunk back until the ground new growth will appear. Growing best on fertile, moist soil, Bananas will thrive in full sun or partial shade and should be protected from both wind and cold. Plants respond well to regular fertilization. Many different species of Banana are available. Some ornamental types are grown for foliage or flowers. The best usages for Banana as a specimens or container plant. 'Cavendish' is the best edible variety.



Plant Image

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#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** banana

**Pronunciation:** MEW-suh species

**Plant Type:** Tree

**Origin:** Southern Asia, Indonesia, Malaysia

**Heat Zones:** 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

**Hardiness Zones:** 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

**Uses:** Specimen, Container, Edible, Wildlife

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Tree Shape:** Upright

**Canopy Symmetry:** Irregular

**Canopy Density:** Open

**Canopy Texture:** Coarse

**Height at Maturity:** 3 to 5 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 3 to 5 meters

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 1 to 2 Years

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## Musa spp.

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Flower Image

### Botanical Description

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#### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Spiral

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 50 - 80

**Leaf Shape:** Oblong

**Leaf Margins:** Undulate

**Leaf Textures:** Smooth

**Leaf Scent:** No Fragrance

**Color(growing season):** Green

**Color(changing season):** Green

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#### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** Over 20

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance

**Flower Color:** Orange, Purple

**Seasons:** Spring

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#### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage

**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked

**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Showy, Smooth

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#### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Berry

**Fruit Showiness:** True

**Fruit Size Range:** 10 - 20

**Fruit Colors:** Yellow

**Seasons:** Spring

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## Musa spp.

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Leaf Image

### Horticulture Management

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#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** No

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** No

**Salt Tolerance:** Poor

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

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

**Water Requirements:** High

**Light Requirements:** Full

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#### Management

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** Yes

**Pruning Requirement:** No pruning at all

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** Yes

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** Less than 25

**Edible Parts:** Fruit

**Pests:** Nematodes, Scales

**Plant Propagations:** Stolons

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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image