

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

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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Flower Image

Botanical Description

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

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: Over 20

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Orange, Purple

Seasons: Spring

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked

Trunk Esthetic Values: Showy, Smooth

Fruit

Fruit Type: Berry

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 10 - 20

Fruit Colors: Yellow

Seasons: Spring

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: No

Salt Tolerance: Poor

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: High

Light Requirements: Full

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

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image