

Euphorbia tirucalli

(Pencil Tree, Milkbush, Milk Bush, Finger Tree)

Pencil tree is a unusual tree where the branches of the tree is green and full of latex and the leaves are small and tiny almost invisible. The plant can tolerate drought and heat, even salty air. It makes an excellent accent or screen in seaside homes. The latex can cause allergic reaction therefore handle it with care. Beware of use where pets and children share its space.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Plante-crayon,
Pronounciation: yoo-FOR-bee-uh tee-roo-KAL-ee
Plant Type: Cactus / Succulent
Origin: Southern africa
Heat Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
Hardiness Zones: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Uses: Hedge, Specimen, Indoor, Container, Medicinal
Size/Shape
Growth Rate: Fast
Tree Shape: Upright
Canopy Symmetry: Irregular
Canopy Density: Medium
Canopy Texture: Medium
Height at Maturity: 5 to 8 m
Spread at Maturity: 1.5 to 3 meters
Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Nearly Invisible

Leaf Persistence: Deciduous

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: Less than 5

Leaf Shape: Oblanceolate

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: False

Flower Size Range: 0 - 1.5

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Yellow, Red

Seasons: Spring, Summer

Trunk

Trunk Has Crownshaft: False

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked, Can be trained to one trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Showy, Rough Texture

Fruit

Fruit Type: Capsule

Fruit Showiness: False

Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Green, Pink

Seasons: Spring, Summer

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Good

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Low

Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

Toxity: Yes

Invasive Potential: No

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Little needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: 25-50 years

Edible Parts: None

Pests: Mites, Nematodes, Thrips, Mealy-Bug

Plant Propagations: Cutting

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Other Image