PLANT FACT SHEET

Hyophorbe verschaffeltii H. Wendland

GENUS *Hyophorbe* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Spindle palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Cabbage, Palm heart

DESCRIPTION

A palm. The trunk is narrow at both ends and has a bulge in the middle. The trunk is usually grey. It has distinct rings. There is a bright green crown-shaft. The crown-shaft can be expanded near its base. The crown has 6-8 fronds. The fronds are arching and feathery. They are 1-1.5 m long. The leaflets are tapering. They are bright green above and greyish underneath. They are arranged along the leaf stalk in different planes. The flowering stalks are in horn like spathes. These occur several at a time near the base of the crown-shaft. The flowers are bright orange. They have a strong scent. The fruit are oval and 2-3 cm long by 1.5-2 cm wide. They are bright orange to red. They hang in large clusters.

HABITAT

It grows on calcareous soils at low altitudes. It can grow in full sun or light shade. It suits seasonally moist and dry climates. It suits plant hardiness zones 10-11. Mt Cootha Botanical Gardens. In Townsville Anderson BG.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seed germinate in about 6 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is slow growing.

NOTES

There are 5 Hyophorbe species. It is an endangered species and should not be killed.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/0d657292-75c5-4f3c-8259-7b60c6ff937b