PLANT FACT SHEET

Musa velutina Wendland & Drude

GENUS *Musa* **FAMILY** Musaceae

COMMON NAMES Pink banana

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Flowers, Stems, Seeds

The flowers and young stems are cooked as a vegetable. The fresh flowers can be stored for 8-10 days. They are also used for chutney.
The ripe fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A banana plant with underground stems. It grows 1.5 m high. The leaves are dark green and 1 m long. They are paler underneath. The flowers are pale yellow or white and the bracts are red. They stick upright. The fruit are bright pink. They are velvety. The fruit split when ripe. They have hard, round seeds. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It needs regular moisture and humidity. It needs fertile, well drained soil. It needs an acid pH. It needs full or part sun. It cannot tolerate strong winds or salt exposure. It suits hardiness zones 9-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds or suckers.

NOTES

There are about 30 Musa species. Musa dasycarpa may be the correct name.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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