PLANT FACT SHEET

Yucca filamentosa L.

GENUS *Yucca* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

COMMON NAMES Adam's Needles, Spanish Bayonet, Spoonleaf yucca

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Fruit, Stem

The flower stalks are boiled or roasted. The flowers are eaten raw or boiled.
The plum-like fruit are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub 1.5-1.8 m tall and spreading 90-120 cm wide. The leaves are stiff grey-green. They form a rosette without a leaf stalk. They have thread like curling hairs at the edge. The flowers occur in a compact spike. They are creamy bells. The flowers are 35-50 mm long. The spikes reach 1.5 m high. The fruit are large and fleshy. They split open when ripe.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It suits hardiness zones 6-10.

NOTES

There are about 40 Yucca species.
Also put in the family Agavaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Ambasta, S.P. (Ed.), 2000, The Useful Plants of India. CSIR India. p 696

Beckstrom-Sternberg, Stephen M., and James A. Duke. "The Foodplant Database." http://probe.nalusda.gov:8300/cgi-bin/browse/foodplantdb. (ACEDB version 4.0 - data version July 1994)

Blamey, M and Grey-Wilson, C., 2005, Wild flowers of the Mediterranean. A & C Black London. p 488

Bremness, L., 1994, Herbs. Collins Eyewitness Handbooks. Harper Collins. p 135

Brickell, C. (Ed.), 1999, The Royal Horticultural Society A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants. Convent Garden Books. p 1066

Cundall, P., (ed.), 2004, Gardening Australia: flora: the gardener's bible. ABC Books. p 1492

Duke, J.A., 1992, Handbook of Edible Weeds. CRC Press. p 214

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 4

Flowerdew, B., 2000, Complete Fruit Book. Kyle Cathie Ltd., London. p 189

Harter, J.(Ed.), 1988, Plants. 2400 copyright free illustrations. Dover p 9.2, 13.2, 13.7, 14.1, 14.2

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 690

Hibbert, M., 2002, The Aussie Plant Finder 2002, Florilegium. p 310

http://www.botanic-gardens-ljubljana.com/en/plants

Joyce, D., 1998, The Garden Plant Selector. Ryland, Peters and Small. p 164

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 933

Kiple, K.F. & Ornelas, K.C., (eds), 2000, The Cambridge World History of Food. CUP p 1885

Medsger, O. P., 1939, Edible Wild Plants. Macmillan Company. p 3

Moerman, D. F., 2010, Native American Ethnobotany. Timber Press. p 606

Plants for a Future database, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0NG, UK. http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/

Sp. pl. 1:319. 1753

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/56cf257d-8180-4894-a66d-ccaf1a7c7fc2