PLANT FACT SHEET

Musa balbisiana var. brachycarpa (Backer) Hakkinen

GENUS *Musa* **FAMILY** Musaceae

COMMON NAMES Stone banana

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: shoots, Fruit, Seeds

The fruit can be eaten whole including seeds. Or the seeds can be sieved out and the flesh eaten.
The terminal bud is eaten.
The inner part of the young rhizome is eaten. It is finely cut and cooked with pork and rice.

DESCRIPTION

A banana plant that keeps growing from year to year with many suckers. It grows 8-10 m tall. The false trunk is 4-7 m tall. The leaves have long leaf stalks. The leaves are oblong with a heart shaped base. They are 2-3 m long by 40-70 cm wide. The flowering stalk hangs down. It is 1-1.5 m long. Lower flowers are female and higher flowers are male. The bracts are dark purple with yellow tips. They are 12-30 cm long. The fruit contain seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in forest valleys with rich, moist soil. It grows up to 1,100 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or suckers.

NOTES

There are about 30 Musa species.

REFERENCES

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/7ef7039c-19f1-4267-8a01-52ffb0e4072c