PLANT FACT SHEET

Ananas comosus var. microstachys L. B. Smith

GENUS *Ananas* **FAMILY** Bromeliaceae

COMMON NAMES Ornamental pineapple, Cerrado pineapple

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit pulp is eaten raw and also used for drinks.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows to 1 m high. A plant which grows in the soil. The leaves are in a ring from the base. They are 1-1.6 m long and 2-.5 cm wide. The leaves are long and narrow. They have teeth along the edge. The spines are curved. The flowering stalk is like a cylinder and is 9-15 cm long by 4-5 cm wide. The fruit is made up of cell united like a pineapple. It is 5 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows up to 600 m altitude. It is best in rich, moist well-drained soil. It needs an open sunny position. It is damaged by drought and frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by division. If seeds are used they should be dipped in dilute sulphuric acid to improve their germination. It is grown as a hedge.

NOTES

There are 8 Ananas species.

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