PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Dracaena draco* (L.) L.

**GENUS** *Dracaena* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Dragon tree, Dragon's blood tree

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit

## DESCRIPTION

A palm like tree. It is evergreen. The trunk is erect and the branches spread out like spokes in a wheel. It grows 6-17 m tall. The sap is orange-red. The leaves are sword shaped and leathery. They are 35-50 cm long. The forked base is orange. They are in clusters at the ends of branches. The edges are smooth. The flowers are greenish-white and very small. They are in large flower heads. The fruit are orange-red.

## HABITAT

Adelaide Botanical Gardens. Melbourne Botanical gardens. It suits places with moderate moisture or dry areas. It does well on a gritty, well-drained soil. It needs full sun. It suits hardiness zones 10-12.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or by stem cuttings.

### Harvesting and Seed Production

It is slow growing.

## NOTES

There are about 60-100 Dracaena species. The sap is used to stain Stradivarious violins. Also put in the family Dracaenaceae.

## PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

## REFERENCES


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

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 354

Cundall, P., (ed.), 2004, Gardening Australia: flora: the gardener's bible. ABC Books. p 511

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 282

Heywood, V.H., Brummitt, R.K., Culham, A., and Seberg, O., 2007, Flowering Plant Families of the World. Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew. p 366

Hibbert, M., 2002, The Aussie Plant Finder 2002, Florilegium. p 89

Llamas, K.A., 2003, Tropical Flowering Plants. Timber Press. p 336

Marinelli, J. (Ed), 2004, Plant. DK. p 104

Staples, G.W. and Herbst, D.R., 2005, A tropical Garden Flora. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, Hawaii. p 584

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 1012

Syst. nat. ed. 12, 2:246. 1767



**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/8fd2ea6a-b994-48f8-92c1-9f3d3a0ab88f