PLANT FACT SHEET

Aloe arborescens P. Miller

GENUS *Aloe* **FAMILY** Asphodelaceae

COMMON NAMES Candelabra aloe, Mountain bush aloe, Tree aloe

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers - nectar, Fruit

The flowers are sucked for their sweet nectar.
The leaf gel is used for drinks.
The fruit are eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A mounding shrub. It forms clumps. It can be 2-3 m tall. The stems are 2-3 m long. The leaves are in crowded rinds at the ends of stems. The leaves are spreading and sword shaped. They are 50-60 cm long by 5-7 cm wide. They are dull green with pale teeth along the edge. The leaves taper to a long tip. They curve downwards. The flowering arrangement is upright or horizontal and usually un-branched. The flowers hang down.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It is best with well-drained soil and a partly shaded position. In Zimbabwe it grows between 1,050-2,500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. It can also be grown from cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 360 Aloe species. They grow in the dry areas of Africa.
Also put in the family Aloaceae. Also put in the family Asphodelaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/a25f99d4-8d02-4b52-9c46-3c0e40816d4e