PLANT FACT SHEET

Ensete glaucum (Roxb.) Cheesman

GENUS *Ensete* **FAMILY** Musaceae

COMMON NAMES Snow banana tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Spadix, Fruit, Terminal bud

The fruit are eaten ripe. They have a sweet flavour. They are also cooked.
The terminal male bud is eaten with rice.
The false stem is eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A wild banana. It is a large herb. It grows 5-7 m high. The base of the stem is thickened like a bottle. The leaves have long stalks. The leaves are oblong with a rounded base. They are 2.5-3 m long and 60-70 cm wide. They are light green. The flowering shoot is at the top and hangs down. It can be 2 m long. The fruit is an oblong berry. It is 8-12 cm long by 3-4 cm wide. They are yellowish with black seed. There are 15-25 seeds. They are large, black and shiny. They are 1 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Indonesia it grows on islands between 5 and 100 m above sea level. In Nepal it grows between 150-1,800 m above sea level. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

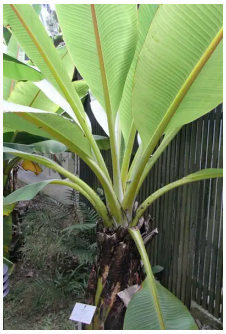
NOTES

There are 6 Ensete species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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