PLANT FACT SHEET

Pandanus utilis Bory

GENUS *Pandanus* **FAMILY** Pandanaceae

COMMON NAMES Common screw pine

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Vegetable

The fruit yields a starchy food which is cooked and eaten.
The male spadices are edible.

DESCRIPTION

A screw pine. It is a tall tree. It grows 12-18 m high. It forms many branches. It has aerial roots. The leaves are stiff and blue-green. They have red spines at the base. The leaves are arranged in spirals. The flowering head is made up of very small creamy white flowers. The fruit is a rounded compound head. The head is 15-20 cm across. It is made up of 100 long woody fruit. They are 25 mm long. They are edible when fully ripe.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows from sea level up to 1,800 m above sea level in East Africa. It needs a sandy, well-drained soil. It needs full sun. It is often in coastal areas. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In XTBG Yunnan. In Townsville Anderson BG.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is slow growing.

NOTES

There are about 600 Pandanus species. They grow in the tropics.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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