PLANT FACT SHEET

Agave potatorum Zucc.

GENUS *Agave* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

COMMON NAMES Butterfly agave

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Base - drink, Stems, Leaves, Flowers

The bud is used to make a drink.
The stems are baked and eaten.
The flower buds are boiled or roasted and cooked with egg or hot chilli sauce.
The leaf bases are baked and eaten as candy.

DESCRIPTION

An agave. A small succulent plant. It has a short stem and can occur singly or in a clump. The leaves are succulent and in a ring. There are 30-80 leaves. They become narrow towards the base. They are curved towards the tip and are blue-green. There are spines long the edge. There is a spine at the tip. The flowering shoots are 3-6 m tall and the flowers are light green tinged with red. They have red bracts around them.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in semi-arid regions between 1,200-2,250 m above sea level. It grows in areas with an areas with an annual mean temperature of 18°C. The average annual rainfall is 655 mm.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or suckers.

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