PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Pandanus krauelianus* K. Schumann

**GENUS** *Pandanus* **FAMILY** Pandanaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Corncob Screw Pine

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit

The fruit contains an oil used to flavour food in cooking. It is used like marita (Pandanus conoideus)
The inner flesh is edible when it is soft and ripe but it can irritate the mouth.

## DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows up to 5-12 m tall. It spreads to 2-3 m wide. It has prop roots. The trunk and roots are prickly. It has an open crown. The leaves are simple and 1.65 m long by 4-5 cm wide. The edges of the leaf have teeth and spines. The leaves are strap like but M shaped in cross section. They are dark green above and waxy underneath. The male flowering stalks are branched and 25-35 cm long. They have cream bracts. The male spikes are 10-15 cm long and greenish-cream. The female flowering stalks are not branched. They are enclosed in large orange-yellow bracts. The look like a cob of corn in its husk. The fruit are 22 cm long by 7.5 cm wide. They contain many seeds. The seeds are 2 cm long by 0.9 cm wide. The inner flesh is edible when it is soft and ripe.
A screwpine or Pandan. The leaves are oblong and 2 m long by 3-3.5 cm wide. They have short spines along the edges. They taper at the tip. The fruit is made up or lots of fused fruit. They are cylinder shaped and 20-30 cm long by 5-8 cm wide. The fruit are yellow when mature. The small sections are 1.5-2.5 cm long by 3-5 mm wide.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in mountainous regions along rivers. It occurs in Maluku. It grows naturally in the foothills of rainforest in NE Queensland in Australia. It does best in a sheltered location and with some shade. It needs well drained soil. I has been recorded in lowland swamps and grows from sea level to 1,600 m above sea level.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants are grown from fresh seed.

## PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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