



PLANT FACT SHEET

Amorphophallus galbra Bailey

GENUS *Amorphophallus* FAMILY Araceae

COMMON NAMES Snakeskin lily, Yellow lily yam

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Corm, leaves, Fruit, Root

The tubers, leaf stalks and fruit are eaten after baking. The tubers or corms need cooking for a long time.

DESCRIPTION

A tuber plant. The root tuber is flattened and up to 10 cm across. The plant grows 0.5-1 m high. The leaf stalk is grey-green and mottled. It is 60 cm long and smooth. There is a single leaf which can be 60 cm across. It is divided into lobes about 15 cm long. These have long thread like points. The flower stem is 60 cm tall. It is a lily like flower and yellow in the centre. The flower spadix is about 12 cm long. The flowers are on the lower half of this. The spathe around this spadix is 25 cm long and tapers to a point. The flowers have a sweet scent. The fruit are berries which are 1 cm across and red.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It needs a minimum temperature above 10°C. It is very cold sensitive. It needs loamy soil rich in organic matter. It needs a seasonally dry climate. Brisbane Botanical gardens. Cairns Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or by division of the clump.

NOTES

There are about 170-200 *Amorphophallus* species. The name probably should be *galbra* after an aboriginal name.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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