

Codiaeum variegatum

Scientific classification

Kingdom : Plantae
Clade : Angiosperms
Order : Malpighiales
Family : Euphorbiaceae
Genus : *Codiaeum*
Species : *C. variegatum*



Description:

It is a tropical, evergreen, monoecious shrub growing to 3 m (9.8 ft) tall and has large, thick, leathery, shiny evergreen leaves, alternately arranged, 5–30 cm (2.0–11.8 in) long and 0.5–8 cm (0.20–3.15 in) broad. The leaf blades can, for example, be ruler-lanceolate, oblong, elliptic, lanceolate, ovate inverted, ovate spatulate, or violin-shaped and coloured green, yellow, or purple in various patterns, depending on the variety. The petiole has a length of 0.2 to 2.5 cm. The inflorescences are long racemes, 8–30 cm (3.1–11.8 in) long, with male and female flowers on separate inflorescences; the male flowers are white with five small petals and 20–30 stamens, pollens are oval approximately 52x32 microns in size. The female flowers yellowish, with no petals. The flowering period is usually in early autumn. The fruit is a capsule 9 mm (0.35 in) in diameter, containing three seeds that are 6 mm (0.24 in) in diameter. When cut, stems bleed a milky sap

Medicinal uses:

The leaves are used as tonic, the flowers against flat worms, the fruits to treat dysmenorrhoea, the seeds as purgative. the bark to treat dyspepsia and the roots to treat dysentery. The bark is also used to treat chronic enlargement of the liver and remittent fever.