


Euphorbia trigona

<p>Scientific classification</p> <p>Kingdom : Plantae Clade : Angiosperms Order : Malpighiales Family : Euphorbiaceae Genus : <i>Euphorbia</i> Species : <i>E.trigona</i> Part used : Latex</p>	
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Description

Euphorbia trigona is a spiny, succulent, evergreen shrub or tree, usually growing up to 1.8 metres tall. It has an upright stem and number of branches that also grow upward. The stem and branches can have two or three sides. The stem itself is dark green with V-shaped light green patterns. The 5 mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ in) thorns occur in pairs on the stem's ridges. The drop shaped leaves grow from between the two thorns on each ridge. The plant has never been known to flower and is possibly a hybrid.

Medicinal use

Some drops of latex in palm wine are taken in severe cases of constipation or in case of an epileptic attack. The latex contains 8-methoxyingol esters, which are very irritant to the skin. It also contains lectins with potent erythrocyte agglutinating ability