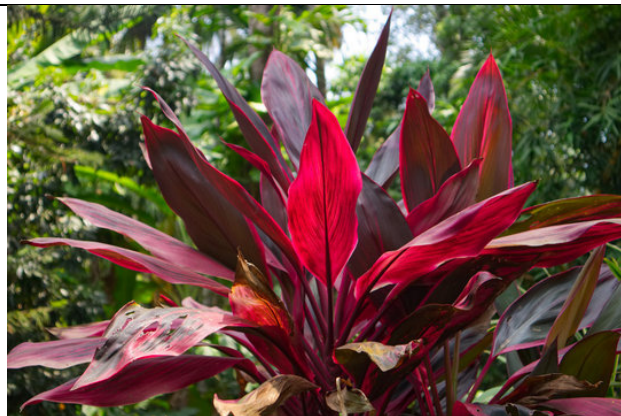


Cordyline fruticosa

Scientific classification

Kingdom : Plantae
Clade : Angiosperms
Order : Asparagales
Family : Asparagaceae
Genus : *Cordyline*
Species : *C. fruticosa*



Description

It is a palm-like plant growing up to 3 to 4 m (9.8 to 13.1 ft) tall with an attractive fan-like and spirally arranged cluster of broadly elongated leaves at the tip of the slender trunk. It has numerous color variations, ranging from plants with red leaves to green and variegated forms. It is a woody plant with leaves 30–60 cm (12–24 in) (rarely 75 cm or 30 in) long and 5–10-centimetre (2.0–3.9 in) wide at the top of a woody stem. It produces 40–60-centimetre (16–24 in) long panicles of small scented yellowish to red flowers that mature into red berries. These berries have been described as "dry and fleshy."

Uses

They are also widely used for traditional medicine, dye, and ornamentation throughout Austronesia and New Guinea. In the Philippines, the roots were used to flavor the traditional *intus* sugarcane wines of the Lumad people of Mindanao.