

Botanical Name: Musa paradisiaca seminifera

Common Name: Common banana

Type of Plant: monocot: treelike Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, clumping plant, with a few to several slender stems (swollen at base) to form a thicket-like growth; stems are round in cross-section; large ascending leaves have clasping bases

Height 10-30' Spread 2/3 equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors partial or full sun

Soil moist, rich loam

Hardiness tender (zones 16,21-24); keep out of windy areas; coast

Morphology:

Leaves large, feather shaped (but not divided), spirally arranged on trunk; ascending and arching, 5-10' long; 2' wide, bright green

Flowers large, showy, purple; in terminal sheath-like cluster

Fruit an elongate berry: 8-14" long, in sheathlike cluster

Propagation: division of clump; suckers easily

Usage: a large, tropical clumping mass-accent, for form and large foliage; useable as a large background mass; is an invasive grower

Landscape Care:

Watering regular; likes heavy watering; suffers from drought

Fertilizing as needed; check for iron chlorosis in heavy watered soils

Pruning thin out clump; remove suckers

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions prefers warm, moist conditions

Origin: India Family: Musaceae