

# *Yucca gloriosa* L.

## Systematic Position

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Tracheophyta

Class: Liliopsida

Order: Asparagales

Family: Asparagaceae

Genus: *Yucca* L.

Species: *Yucca gloriosa* L.



**Popular names:** Spanish dagger, Adam's needle, Roman candle and Palm lily.

**Nature:** Shrub

**Flowering time:** March to September

**Plant distribution:** It is native to North America. In India, it is grown as an ornamental plant.

## Gardening notes:

1. It requires sandy loam soil and full exposure to the sun.
2. It requires hot summers to initiate flowering.
3. Propagation: By seeds and root cuttings.

### **Economic importance:**

1. Flowers are delicious, they are eaten raw and can also be dried and crushed for flavoring food.
2. Fruit is purgative.
3. Plant is grown as living fence in Cuba.
4. Leaf fibers used for making baskets, cloth, ropes and mats.
5. Roots are rich in saponins and are used as substitute of soap.

**Plant description:** It is an evergreen shrub, 2-3 m tall.

**Root-** Tap root and branched; **Stem-** Aerial, erect, cylindrical, woody, caulescent, with several stems arising from the thick base.

**Leaf-** Simple, long, lanceolate or sword-shaped, flattened, stiff, dark green with entire margins, acuminate, sharp brown terminal spine.

**Inflorescence-** Paniced cymose.

**Flower-** Complete, hermaphrodite, hypogynous, pendulous, creamy-white, cup-shaped, scape like peduncle; **Tepals-** Distinct, white or creamy white; **Stamens-** 6 , equal, free; **Carpel-** 3, syncarpous.

Some close-up pictures of plant parts



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