

Pandanus tectorius

Pandanus du bord de mer
Family : Pandanaceae



Pandanus is supported by aerial roots that grow above the ground and form a pyramid below the trunk.

The long, spiny, sturdy leaves form a bunch at the end of the branches.

Pandanus is dioecious, so there are male and female plants. The male plants have flowers surrounded by highly scented white bracts that protect an oval panicle covered with pollen. Female plants produce a large oval pineapple-like fruit. As they mature, the drupes turn orange, split and fall to the ground.



Virtues



Traditional uses

- Basketry : making baskets, hats, mats, roofing and, in traditional times, sails for pirogues
- Use of wood for making rafts, harpoon handles and for traditional construction
- Edible fruits picked just before maturity and well cooked



Pharmacopoeia

- Aerial roots used for purging and for heartburn



CENTRE
D'INITIATION À
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