

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower (right) and unopened flower (left).
Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural
History, Department of Botany, creator RA Howard,
Hawaii



Ripe fruit. Photographer B Navez, unknown place



Young fruit and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index,
photographer Murray Fagg, SW of Tweed Heads.



Plant and flower. Photographer maliemcoiones,
Mexico

Common name

Fruit salad plant

Family

Araceae

Where found

Mainly where garden refuse has been dumped. Urban bushland and along streams. Sydney area and lower Blue Mountains south to near Kiama.

Notes

Introduced epiphyte, woody vine or **perennial** herb to 20 m tall, mostly to 1.5 m tall. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 25–90 cm long, 250–750 mm broad, leathery, glossy, **cordate**, becoming lobed and holey in **adult** leaves. Individual flowers small. The **spathe** surrounds the cylindrical flower **spike**. Spike to 300 mm long. Fruit yellowish or green to purple when ripe, with a pungent smell. Edible only when fully ripe.

The description above is based on the article in Wikipedia and on the description in PlantNET of the family Araceae.

PlantNET description of the family Araceae: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=fm&name=Araceae> (accessed 19 April 2021)

Wikipedia description: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monstera_deliciosa (accessed 19 April 2021)

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