

Agave sisalana

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Liliopsida	Liliales	Agavaceae

Common name agave (English), te robu (English, Kiribati), garingboom (Afrikaans), sisal agave (English), mescal (English), hemp-plant (English), Maguey de Sisal (Spanish), century plant (English), te rob' (English, Kiribati), malina (English, Hawaii), ndali (English, Fiji), natali (English, Fiji), dali (English, Fiji), sisal hemp (English), sisal (English)

Synonym *Agave rigida* , var. *sisalana* (Perrine) Engelm.

Similar species

Summary *Agave sisalana* is a member of the Agavaceae family and is native to Mexico. It is known primarily for its fibre production, and is grown commercially worldwide for the fibre industry. It is a large and fast-propagating plant, which can cause problems in areas where it is invasive as it can exclude and outcompete native plant species. *A. sisalana* is invasive in Australia, Madagascar, South Africa, the United States and on multiple islands in the Pacific.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Uses

Agave sisalana is used a source of fiber and it is used as an ornamental plant. Parts of the plant are used as medicine.

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

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ALIEN RANGE

[2] AUSTRALIA	[1] BERMUDA
[1] CHRISTMAS ISLAND	[1] FIJI
[2] FRENCH POLYNESIA	[1] GUAM
[1] JAPAN	[6] KIRIBATI
[1] MADAGASCAR	[4] MARSHALL ISLANDS
[1] MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF	[1] NAURU
[1] NEW CALEDONIA	[2] NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
[1] PALAU	[1] PAPUA NEW GUINEA
[1] PHILIPPINES	[1] PUERTO RICO



GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Agave sisalana*

[3] SAINT HELENA
[1] SOLOMON ISLANDS
[1] SPAIN
[1] UNITED STATES MINOR OUTLYING ISLANDS

[1] SEYCHELLES
[1] SOUTH AFRICA
[9] UNITED STATES
[1] VIRGIN ISLANDS, U.S.

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Management information

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[IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group \(ISSG\), 2010. *A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers*.](#)

Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

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General information

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[Duffey, Eric. 1964. *The Terrestrial Ecology of Ascension Island, The Journal of Applied Ecology* 1 \(2\): 219-251.](#)

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Summary: Available from: http://www.hear.org/gcw/species/agave_sisalana/ [Accessed 26 July 2010]

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[Hartemink, Alfred E.; Wienk, Jan F., 1995. Sisal production and soil fertility decline in Tanzania. *Outlook on Agriculture*. 24\(2\). 1995. 91-96.](#)

[Long, Emma; Racey, Paul A., 2007. An exotic plantation crop as a keystone resource for an endemic megachiropteran, *Pteropus rufus*, in Madagascar. *Journal of Tropical Ecology*. 23\(Part 4\). JUL 2007. 397-407](#)

[Ortiz, Daniel Guillot; van der Meerz, Piet, 2006. A new potential invasive taxa to the flora iberica: *Agave sisalana* var. *armata* Trel. *Studia Botanica*. 25 2006. 139-141.](#)

[Porembski, S., 2000. *The invasibility of tropical granite outcrops \(inselbergs\) by exotic weeds. Journal of the Royal Society of Western Australia*, 83:131-137, 2000](#)

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