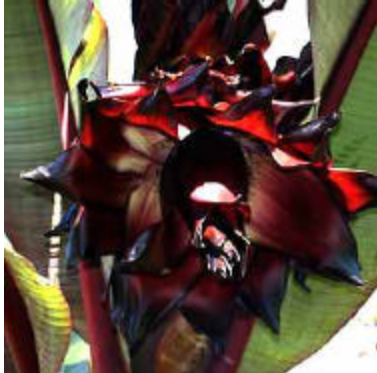


# Red Abyssian Banana



## *Ensete maurelli*

- **Use:** Impress the neighbors with this super fast growing banana! In no time you will have a huge, lush tropical paradise with a stand of these! This is the cold hardiest of all banana trees.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun– part shade. Provide well-drained, moist soil, but not soggy. Use a slow release fertilizer. Always hungry this plant loves lots of water and fertilizer!
- **Growth:** 10 to 12 feet long leaves on a 12 to 15 foot tall pseudo-trunk makes this large tropical unique.
- **Hardiness:** 9-11; Annual It is cold hardy to about 20-25° F. Over wintering when in pots is easy if you have a frost free place to store them. Don't water in the colder months, even if the leaves die back. For ground planted bananas lift before the first frosts, cut the leaves off and take most of the soil off the root ball. Tip the plant upside down to allow any water trapped in the pseudo stem to drain away. This is important to avoid rotting. Then the banana can be wrapped in a breathable wrapping and stored in a cool place. I have heard the garage or shed to be suitable places. Check occasionally for signs of growth in spring (March/April). Once in growth pot up and grow on cool ready for the next planting out after the last frost.
- **Foliage:** Large fragrant leaves can be used for cooking.
- **Flower:** Blooms late summer, but requires LOTS of fertilizing and growth first. Bananas on the variety are inedible, but still fun to show the neighbors..

Print this sign out at [www.growersoutlet.com](http://www.growersoutlet.com) We recycle empty pots and trays.