

**1. ANANAS** Miller, Gard. Dict. Abr., ed. 4, [76]. 1754.

凤梨属 feng li shu

Herbs perennial, erect, simple. Leaves in a dense rosette; leaf sheath scarcely enlarged; leaf blade spinose serrate at margin. Inflorescence erect, scapose, strobiliform, apex with a tuft of sterile, leafy bracts. Flowers bisexual. Petals each bearing 2 funnelform, slender scales. Ovaries inferior, coalescing and with bracts and rachis forming a compound, fleshy fruit (syncarp).

Eight species: South America; one species (introduced) in China.

**1. *Ananas comosus*** (Linnaeus) Merrill, Interpr. Herb. Amboin. 133. 1917.

凤梨 feng li

*Bromelia comosa* Linnaeus, Herb. Amb. 21. 1754; *B. ananas* Linnaeus.

Leaves sword-shaped, margin coarsely and laxly spinose serrate. Scape short. Inflorescence many flowered; floral bracts inconspicuous, margin serrulate or entire. Flowers numerous. Sepals free, slightly asymmetric, apex obtuse. Petals violet or reddish, free but connivent and tubelike. Stamens included. Syncarp globose, ovoid, or elongate, 15 cm or longer at maturity, becoming fleshy and fragrant. Seeds absent or very rare.

Cultivated. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan, S Yunnan [native to South America].

This species is grown throughout the tropics for its edible syncarp.