

# Musa sikkimensis

## COMMON NAMES

Darjeeling banana

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

## SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

A tree-like perennial herb with stems to 4 m tall that die off to ground level after flowering. The plant is a perennial, with new suckers or off-shoots arising from the base of the dead stems, the 'stem' being made up of tightly packed leaf sheaths. The inflorescence is on an unbranched arching 'stalk' extending well beyond the 'stem' and contains both male and female flowers in terminal bunches, followed by short plump 'bananas' in whorls along the 'stalk'; each banana is packed with hard black seeds. Reputedly one of the most cold-hardy Musa species.

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

## DISTRIBUTION

Grown in many warmer and temperate parts of New Zealand as an ornamental plant but this (2018) is the first record of its self-establishing from seed.

## GENUS

Musa

## FAMILY

Musaceae

## AUTHORITY

Musa sikkimensis Kurz

## YEAR NATURALISED

2018

## ORIGIN

Himalayas of north-eastern India, Bhutan

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Seed or off-shoots

## MORE INFORMATION

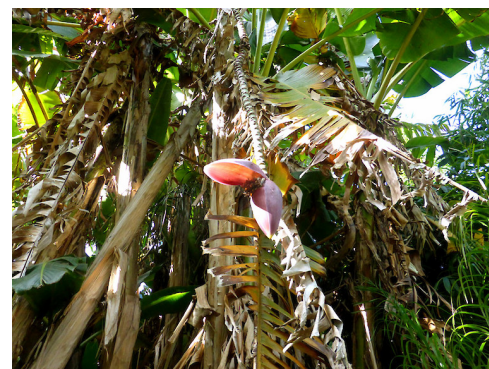
<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/musa-sikkimensis/>

## PDF DATE

27 May 2026



Cultivated; garden near Fordell, Whanganui.  
Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken:  
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Cultivated plant with inflorescence; garden near Fordell, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 29/05/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.