



SEED OF THE MONTH:

Common Name: Song of India

Scientific Name: *Dracaena reflexa variegata*

Family: Asparagaceae

Genus: *Dracaena*

Species: *D. reflexa* **Subspecies:**

Height:

Spacing

Sun Exposure:

3 ft. Indoors

Depends on use

Soft Light

17 ft. Outdoors

15 or more ft. away from bldg. Soft Light

Bloom Color: Small white, sweet fragrant blooms.

Soil Requirements: Well drained.

Water Requirements: Like to live on the dryer side. If soil is moist don't water until it is dry to the touch.

Propagation Methods:

Cuttings work best when the cut area is allowed to dry for 24 hrs.

Other Details:

The Song of India is prone to infestations of mealy bugs, spider mites and scale.

They do not like to be placed in bright sunlight, this could actually burn the plants leaves and is considered to be toxic, especially to dogs and cats. Is slow growing and the more moisture it receives from the air the bushier it grows.

The Song of India is native to Madagascar and other nearby islands in the Indian Ocean

Known Uses:

It is a beautiful ornamental plant and when maintained outdoors can be a beautiful boundary hedge. It is also popular as a house plant, and actually doesn't mind being root bound in a pot! As a house plant it is known to cleanse the air of toxins.

Traditional Madagascar medicine used the leaves and trunk, and mixed with other native plants to make a tea that was thought to help with symptoms of Malaria, poisoning, dysentery, diarrhea, but remains unproven by modern standards.

This month's feature is a cutting of the plant.

See the clerk at the window for your cutting.