

BANANA

Since I started growing bananas in 2020, I've started experimenting with a few other varieties. Generally the Musa types are slightly more hardy than the Ensetes, but they will all benefit greatly from being moved to a frost-free location over winter.



Musa velutina - produces lovely pink fluffy bananas (not edible). It sends up numerous shoots from the big root clump, and these can be carefully split and replanted to grow even more banana plants. I've found my plants stay below 5ft tall.



Musella lasiocarpa - Chinese dwarf banana / hardy lotus banana. Another plant that stays small, and is also fairly hardy. It produces suckers at the base of the plant, which can be gently removed if you want to increase your plant stock, or allowed to remain for a bushier plant.



Musa mannii - Dwarf Indian Banana



Ensete ventricosum - Ethiopian Banana



Musa sikkimensis - Darjeeling Banana



Musa balbisiana - ancestor of modern cultivated bananas



Ensete glaucum - Snow Banana from China & Nepal



Musa helen's hybrid - recently discovered in eastern Himalayas