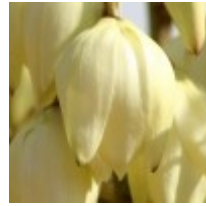
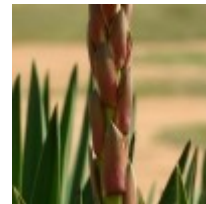


## Sisal (Common Name)

*Agave sisalana* (Scientific Name)



### **Alternative common names:**

Garingboom (Afrikaans)

Succulent shrub with thick, sword-shaped leaves in a basal rosette up to 2m high. The leaves are bright green with tiny toothed to smooth margins. Greenish yellow flowers are borne on a 5-6m tall flowering spike from December to March. Leaves are poisonous to animals and livestock.

### **Where does this species come from?**

Mexico

### **How does it spread?**

Seeds and suckering. Suckering means that a new shoot grows out of the joint where the branch on the plant meets the stem.

### **Why is it a problem?**

It competes with indigenous species. Prolific suckering can create impenetrable thickets especially if it is left to spread, rendering the land useless for grazing. The leaves are poisonous to livestock.

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## **Plant me instead alternatives**

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Phoenix reclinata or Aloe species