Aloe vera (grey)





Aloe vera (/?ælo?i?/ or /?ælo?/) is a succulent plant species of the genus Aloe. An evergreen perennial, it originates from the Arabian Peninsula, but grows wild in tropical, semi-tropical, and arid climates around the world. It is cultivated for agricultural and medicinal uses.

Rating: Not Rated Yet
Price
Sales price R 65,00

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Description

Description[edit]

Aloe vera is a stemless or very short-stemmed plant growing to 60–100 cm (24–39 in) tall, spreading by offsets. The leaves are thick and fleshy, green to grey-green, with some varieties showing white flecks on their upper and lower stem surfaces. The margin of the leaf is serrated and has small white teeth. The flowers are produced in summer on a spike up to 90 cm (35 in) tall, each flower being pendulous, with a yellow tubular corolla 2–3 cm (0.8–1.2 in) long. Like other *Aloe* species, *Aloe vera* forms arbuscular mycorrhiza, a symbiosis that allows the plant better access to mineral nutrients in soil.

Aloe vera leaves contain phytochemicals under study for possible bioactivity, such as acetylated mannans, polymannans, anthraquinone C-glycosides, anthrones, and other anthraquinones, such as emodin and various lectins.

Taxonomy and etymology[edit]

The species has a number of synonyms: *A. barbadensis* Mill., *Aloe indica* Royle, *Aloe perfoliata* L. var. *vera* and *A. vulgaris* Lam. Common names include Chinese Aloe, Indian Aloe, True Aloe, Barbados Aloe, Burn Aloe, First Aid Plant. The species epithet *vera* means "true" or "genuine". Some literature identifies the white-spotted form of *Aloe vera* as *Aloe vera* var. *chinensis*; and it has been suggested that the spotted form of *Aloe vera* may be conspecific with *A. massawana*. The species was first described by Carl Linnaeus in 1753 as *Aloe perfoliata* var. *vera*, and was described again in 1768 by Nicolaas Laurens Burman as *Aloe vera* in *Flora Indica* on 6 April and by Philip Miller as *Aloe barbadensis* some ten days after Burman in the *Gardener's Dictionary*.

Techniques based on DNA comparison suggest *Aloe vera* is relatively closely related to *Aloe perryi*, a species endemic to Yemen. Similar techniques, using chloroplast DNA sequence comparison and ISSR profiling have also suggested it is closely related to *Aloe forbesii*, *Aloe inermis*, *Aloe scobinifolia*, *Aloe sinkatana*, and *Aloe striata*. With the exception of the South African species *A. striata*, these *Aloe* species are native to Socotra (Yemen), Somalia, and Sudan. The lack of obvious natural populations of the species has led some authors to suggest *Aloe vera* may be of hybrid origin.

Distribution[edit]

A. vera is considered to be native only to the south-west Arabian Peninsula. However, it has been widely cultivated around the world, and has become naturalized in North Africa, as well as Sudan and neighboring countries, along with the Canary Islands, Cape Verde, and Madeira Islands. It has also naturalized in the Algarve region of Portugal, and in wild areas across southern Spain, especially in the region of Murcia.

The species was introduced to China and various parts of southern Europe in the 17th century. It is widely naturalized elsewhere, occurring in arid, temperate, and tropical regions of temperate continents. The current distribution may be the result of cultivation.

View source for more information: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aloe_vera

Reviews

There are yet no reviews for this product.