**Introduction**

The upright, multiple, unbranched stems of Corn Plant, with rosettes of arching, broad evergreen leaves have a wide, central yellow stripe, and form a heavy but graceful tropical clump, suitable for low-maintenance container culture or specimen planting. Mass plant on two-foot centers for a coarse textured, clumping effect. Extremely fragrant flowers are occasionally produced and open during the night.

**General Information**

**Scientific name:** *Dracaena fragrans* 'Massangeana'

**Pronunciation:** druh-SEE-nuh FRAY-granz

**Common name(s):** Corn-Plant, Fragrant Dracaena

**Family:** Agavaceae

**Plant type:** shrub

**USDA hardiness zones:** 10B through 11 (Fig. 1)

**Planting month for zone 10 and 11:** year round

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** mass planting; specimen; container or above-ground planter; suitable for growing indoors; accent

**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

**Description**

**Height:** 5 to 15 feet

**Spread:** 2 to 3 feet

**Plant habit:** upright

**Plant density:** open

**Growth rate:** slow

**Texture:** coarse

**Foliage**

**Leaf arrangement:** spiral
Figure 1. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: undulate
Leaf shape: linear
Leaf venation: parallel
Leaf type and persistence: fragrant
Leaf blade length: 18 to 36 inches
Leaf color: variegated
Fall color: no fall color change
Fall characteristic: not showy

Flower
Flower color: white
Flower characteristic: pleasant fragrance; flowers periodically throughout the year

Fruit
Fruit shape: round
Fruit length: less than .5 inch
Fruit cover: fleshy
Fruit color: unknown
Fruit characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy

Trunk and Branches
Trunk/bark/branches: showy; can be trained to grow with a short, single trunk; typically multi-trunked or clumping stems
Current year stem/twig color: not applicable
Current year stem/twig thickness: not applicable

Culture
Light requirement: plant grows in the shade
Soil tolerances: clay; sand; acidic; slightly alkaline; loam
Drought tolerance: moderate
Soil salt tolerances: poor
**Plant spacing:** 18 to 24 inches

**Other**

**Roots:** usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding

**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive

**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

**Use and Management**

Corn Plant requires shade and is tolerant of drought and a wide variety of soil types, though preferring an organic soil. Do not overwater as root rot can cause plant death. The cane of the Corn Plant is usually cut into various lengths and rooted into a container in the nursery. Two to several stems grow from the top of the cane cutting, creating a multiple head of foliage. Individual leaves can last several years on the Corn Plant.

Propagation is by tip cuttings.

Mites, thrips, and chewing insects are a problem.

**Pests and Diseases**

Corn Plants are sensitive to leaf spot diseases and root rot.

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.