

Taxon: *Dracaena aubryana* Brongn.

Family: Asparagaceae

Common Name(s): lance dracaena

Synonym(s): *Dracaena humilis* Baker
Dracaena monostachya Baker
Dracaena thalioides Jacob-Makoy ex Regel
Draco humilis (Baker) Kuntze
Draco thaliodes (Jacob-Makoy ex Regel) Kuntze
Pleomele humilis (Baker) N.E.Br.
Pleomele monostachya (Baker) N.E.Br.
Pleomele thalioides (Jacob-Makoy ex Regel) N.E.Br.

Assessor: Chuck Chimera

Status: Approved

End Date: 4 Nov 2025

WRA Score: 5.0

Designation: L

Rating: Low Risk

Keywords: Ornamental, Shrub, Naturalized, Unarmed, Fleshy-fruited

Qsn #	Question	Answer Option	Answer
101	Is the species highly domesticated?	y = -3, n = 0	n
102	Has the species become naturalized where grown?		
103	Does the species have weedy races?		
201	Species suited to tropical or subtropical climate(s) - If island is primarily wet habitat, then substitute "wet tropical" for "tropical or subtropical"	0 = low, 1 = intermediate, 2 = high (see Appendix 2)	High
202	Quality of climate match data	0 = low, 1 = intermediate, 2 = high (see Appendix 2)	High
203	Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)	y = 1, n = 0	n
204	Native or naturalized in regions with tropical or subtropical climates	y = 1, n = 0	y
205	Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range?	y= -2, ? = -1, n = 0	y
301	Naturalized beyond native range	y = 1*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n = question 205	y
302	Garden/amenity/disturbance weed	y = 1*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n = 0	n
303	Agricultural/forestry/horticultural weed	y = 2*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n = 0	n
304	Environmental weed	y = 2*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n = 0	n
305	Congeneric weed		
401	Produces spines, thorns or burrs	y = 1, n = 0	n
402	Allelopathic		
403	Parasitic	y = 1, n = 0	n
404	Unpalatable to grazing animals		
405	Toxic to animals	y = 1, n = 0	y

Qsn #	Question	Answer Option	Answer
406	Host for recognized pests and pathogens		
407	Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans		
408	Creates a fire hazard in natural ecosystems	y = 1, n = 0	n
409	Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle	y = 1, n = 0	y
410	Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions (or limestone conditions if not a volcanic island)		
411	Climbing or smothering growth habit	y = 1, n = 0	n
412	Forms dense thickets		
501	Aquatic	y = 5, n = 0	n
502	Grass	y = 1, n = 0	n
503	Nitrogen fixing woody plant	y = 1, n = 0	n
504	Geophyte (herbaceous with underground storage organs -- bulbs, corms, or tubers)	y = 1, n = 0	n
601	Evidence of substantial reproductive failure in native habitat	y = 1, n = 0	n
602	Produces viable seed	y = 1, n = -1	y
603	Hybridizes naturally		
604	Self-compatible or apomictic		
605	Requires specialist pollinators	y = -1, n = 0	n
606	Reproduction by vegetative fragmentation	y = 1, n = -1	y
607	Minimum generative time (years)		
701	Propagules likely to be dispersed unintentionally (plants growing in heavily trafficked areas)	y = 1, n = -1	y
702	Propagules dispersed intentionally by people	y = 1, n = -1	y
703	Propagules likely to disperse as a produce contaminant	y = 1, n = -1	n
704	Propagules adapted to wind dispersal	y = 1, n = -1	n
705	Propagules water dispersed	y = 1, n = -1	n
706	Propagules bird dispersed	y = 1, n = -1	y
707	Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)	y = 1, n = -1	n
708	Propagules survive passage through the gut	y = 1, n = -1	y
801	Prolific seed production (>1000/m2)	y = 1, n = -1	n
802	Evidence that a persistent propagule bank is formed (>1 yr)	y = 1, n = -1	n
803	Well controlled by herbicides		
804	Tolerates, or benefits from, mutilation, cultivation, or fire		
805	Effective natural enemies present locally (e.g. introduced biocontrol agents)		

Supporting Data:

Qsn #	Question	Answer
101	Is the species highly domesticated?	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[No evidence] "DISTRIBUTION. West Africa from Sierra Leone to Ivory Coast, from Nigeria to Uganda and Angola HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m USES. None recorded CONSERVATION NOTES. Least Concern (LC)."

102	Has the species become naturalized where grown?	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	NA

103	Does the species have weedy races?	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	NA

201	Species suited to tropical or subtropical climate(s) - If island is primarily wet habitat, then substitute "wet tropical" for "tropical or subtropical"	High
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"DISTRIBUTION. West Africa from Sierra Leone to Ivory Coast, from Nigeria to Uganda and Angola HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m"

202	Quality of climate match data	High
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"DISTRIBUTION. West Africa from Sierra Leone to Ivory Coast, from Nigeria to Uganda and Angola HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m"

203	Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"DISTRIBUTION. West Africa from Sierra Leone to Ivory Coast, from Nigeria to Uganda and Angola HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m"
	Dave's Garden. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/194537 . [Accessed 28 Oct 2025]	"Hardiness USDA Zone 10a: to -1.1 °C (30 °F) USDA Zone 10b: to 1.7 °C (35 °F) USDA Zone 11: above 4.5 °C (40 °F)"

204	Native or naturalized in regions with tropical or subtropical climates	y
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Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"DISTRIBUTION. West Africa from Sierra Leone to Ivory Coast, from Nigeria to Uganda and Angola HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m"
	Faccenda, K. (2024). Report of 24 new naturalized weeds across the islands of Hawai'i. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers 156: 71-110	[Oahu] " <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> Brongn. New naturalized record A small patch of about five individuals of <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> was found about 15 meters away from a road in the back of Kalihi Valley. The plants were far enough from the road that it seemed unlikely they were dumped (dumped plants were noticed closer to the road). Plants of <i>D. aubryana</i> have also been posted to iNaturalist from forested areas of Waimānalo along the Maunawili Ditch Trail, and Moanalua valley where they also are naturalized [link] [link] [link]. Fruits were found on the plant in Kalihi and were photographed on one of the plants from Waimānalo, giving further evidence that this species is reproducing sexually and spreading."

205	Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range?	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	Dave's Garden. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/194537 . [Accessed 28 Oct 2025]	"This plant is said to grow outdoors in the following regions: Cocoa, Florida Fort Lauderdale, Florida Melbourne, Florida Hawaiian Paradise Park, Hawaii Keaau, Hawaii Kurtistown, Hawaii Orchidlands Estates, Hawaii"
	GBIF Secretariat (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> Brongn. ex É.Morren GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. Checklist dataset. https://www.gbif.org/species/9465753 . [Accessed 28 Oct 2025]	Recorded from multiple locations outside native range

301	Naturalized beyond native range	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	Faccenda, K. (2024). Report of 24 new naturalized weeds across the islands of Hawai'i. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers 156: 71-110	" <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> Brongn. New naturalized record A small patch of about five individuals of <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> was found about 15 meters away from a road in the back of Kalihi Valley. The plants were far enough from the road that it seemed unlikely they were dumped (dumped plants were noticed closer to the road). Plants of <i>D. aubryana</i> have also been posted to iNaturalist from forested areas of Waimānalo along the Maunawili Ditch Trail, and Moanalua valley where they also are naturalized [link] [link] [link]. Fruits were found on the plant in Kalihi and were photographed on one of the plants from Waimānalo, giving further evidence that this species is reproducing sexually and spreading."

302	Garden/amenity/disturbance weed	n
	Source(s)	Notes

Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Faccenda, K. (2024). Report of 24 new naturalized weeds across the islands of Hawai'i. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers 156: 71-110	[Spreading from roadside, but no evidence of impacts] "A small patch of about five individuals of <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> was found about 15 meters away from a road in the back of Kalihi Valley. The plants were far enough from the road that it seemed unlikely they were dumped (dumped plants were noticed closer to the road). Plants of <i>D. aubryana</i> have also been posted to iNaturalist from forested areas of Waimānalo along the Maunawili Ditch Trail, and Moanalua valley where they also are naturalized [link] [link] [link]. Fruits were found on the plant in Kalihi and were photographed on one of the plants from Waimānalo, giving further evidence that this species is reproducing sexually and spreading."

303	Agricultural/forestry/horticultural weed	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	No evidence. <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> is not known to be an agricultural, forestry, or horticultural weed.

304	Environmental weed	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	No evidence. <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> is not known to be an environmental weed.

305	Congeneric weed	
	Source(s)	Notes
	Kudo, Y., Mutaqien, Z., Simbolon, H., & Suzuki, E. (2014). Spread of invasive plants along trails in two national parks in West Java, Indonesia. <i>Tropics</i> , 23(3): 99-110	"In total, we found 31 alien plant species along the study trails. They were naturalized completely and seemed to meet the definitions of 匑invasive 匑of Richardson et al. (2000) and Pyšek et al. (2004)." ... "Table 1. Place of origin, life form, and dispersal type of recorded invasive plants" [Includes <i>Dracaena fragrans</i> . Impacts unspecified]
	Folorunso, A. E., & Adifagbade, O. C. (2016). Foliar epidermal traits of invasive and non-invasive species of <i>Dracaena</i> Vand. ex L. (Dracaenaceae) in Obafemi Awolowo University Campus, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. <i>Notulae Scientia Biologicae</i> , *8*(2), 216-219. https://doi.org/10.15835/nsb.8.2.9805 . [Accessed]	[Excluding other plants] " <i>Dracaena manm</i> 1 m the forest behind Botany Department in Obafemi Awolowo University began to manifest the characteristics of an invasive plant. Only one individual of the parent <i>D. mannii</i> was initially found in the forest, thus chis parent plant profusely reproduced itself while displacing other plant species in the forest. As a result of its habit, many stands of <i>Dracaena</i> species are now profusely growing in the forest."
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	Some species listed as naturalized or weeds, but evidence of impacts is lacking

Qsn #	Question	Answer
401	Produces spines, thorns or burrs	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[No evidence] "Shrub 0.4-2.5 m high, usually unbranched; stem erect, often twisted spirally. Leaves distichous, ovate to narrowly ovate, often asymmetric, petiolate, 10-40(-60) cm long, (1.5-)4-10(-15) cm wide, base rounded or cuneate, apex acute to cuspidate; petiole 5-30 (-100) cm long sheathing at base. Inflorescence erect, spicate or paniculate, 9-70 cm long, unbranched or with a few branches near the base; flowers in groups of 1-3(-7) on distinct knobs with a single triangular bract to 10 mm long; pedicel 0-2 mm long articulated above the middle. Flowers white or greenish-white, each lobe often with purple-red central band, (10-)15-30(-55) mm long, lobes as long as to twice as long as the tube, to 2.5 mm wide. Fruits shiny bright orange, deeply 1-3-lobed, lobes ovoid, 8-18 mm long, 4-9 mm in diameter, each lobe 1-seeded; seeds dirty white, ovoid, 6-14 × 5-7mm."

402	Allelopathic	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	Unknown

403	Parasitic	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"Shrub 0.4-2.5 m high, usually unbranched; stem erect, often twisted spirally." [No evidence]

404	Unpalatable to grazing animals	
	Source(s)	Notes
	Quattrocchi, U. (2012). CRC World Dictionary of Medicinal and Poisonous Plants: Common Names, Scientific Names, Eponyms, Synonyms, and Etymology. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL	" <i>Dracaena mannii</i> ... tender shoots eaten, plant for fodder" [Unknown for <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . Palatability differs between species, with some used as fodder, and others considered unpalatable]

405	Toxic to animals	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	PictureThis. (2025). Lance dracaena (<i>Dracaena aubryana</i>). https://www.picturethisai.com/wiki/Dracaena_aubryana.html . [Accessed 28 Oct 2025]	"Toxic to Pets Toxicity"
	ASPCA. (2025). <i>Dracaena</i> . https://www.aspcare.org/pet-care/aspcare-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants/dracaena . [Accessed 28 Oct 2025]	[Generic description] "Toxicity: Toxic to Dogs, Toxic to Cats Toxic Principles: Saponins Clinical Signs: Vomiting (occasionally with blood), depression, anorexia, hypersalivation, dilated pupils (cats)"

Qsn #	Question	Answer
406	Host for recognized pests and pathogens	
	Source(s)	Notes
	PictureThis. (2025). Lance dracaena (<i>Dracaena aubryana</i>). https://www.picturethisai.com/wiki/Dracaena_aubryana.html . [Accessed]	"Mealybug - Mealybug disease causes severe infestations in 'Lance dracaena', leading to stunted growth and leaf discoloration. This pest affects indoor and outdoor plants by sucking sap and excreting honeydew."

407	Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	There are no documented cases of human poisoning specifically attributed to <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . However, members of the genus <i>Dracaena</i> contain steroidal saponins, compounds known to cause mild irritation or toxicity in humans if ingested or handled excessively.

408	Creates a fire hazard in natural ecosystems	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m" [No evidence. Unlikely given moist habitat]

409	Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	Dave's Garden. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/194537 . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	"Sun Exposure Sun to Partial Shade Light Shade Partial to Full Shade"
	Bos, J. J. (1984). <i>Dracaena</i> in west Africa. Agricultural University, Wageningen, the Netherlands	" <i>D. aubryana</i> is restricted to deep shady localities in fairly undisturbed forests."
	PictureThis. (2025). Lance dracaena (<i>Dracaena aubryana</i>). https://www.picturethisai.com/wiki/Dracaena_aubryana.html . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	"Sunlight Requirements: Partial sun Sunlight Tolerance: Full shade"

410	Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions (or limestone conditions if not a volcanic island)	
	Source(s)	Notes
	PictureThis. (2025). Lance dracaena (<i>Dracaena aubryana</i>). https://www.picturethisai.com/wiki/Dracaena_aubryana.html . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	"Lance dracaena has low requirements on soil. The pH of suitable soil is 6.0-6.5. It likes well-drained and organic-rich soil, avoiding sticky substrates. Wet soil that can lead to rot or fungal issues should be avoided as well."
	Dave's Garden. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/194537 . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	"Soil pH requirements 6.1 to 6.5 (mildly acidic) 6.6 to 7.5 (neutral)"

Qsn #	Question	Answer
411	Climbing or smothering growth habit	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"Shrub 0.4-2.5 m high, usually unbranched; stem erect, often twisted spirally."

412	Forms dense thickets	
	Source(s)	Notes
	Bos, J. J. (1984). <i>Dracaena</i> in west Africa. Agricultural University, Wageningen, the Netherlands	" <i>D. aubryana</i> is restricted to deep shady localities in fairly undisturbed forests." [No information on population densities provided]
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[General description. Unknown for <i>Dracaena aubryana</i>] " <i>Dracaena</i> is an important component of both tropical lowland and montane forest in Africa. It frequently forms dense stands and may locally dominate the vegetation."
	Faccenda, K. (2024). Report of 24 new naturalized weeds across the islands of Hawai'i. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers 156: 71-110	[Not in Hawaii to date] "A small patch of about five individuals of <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> was found about 15 meters away from a road in the back of Kalihi Valley. The plants were far enough from the road that it seemed unlikely they were dumped (dumped plants were noticed closer to the road)."

501	Aquatic	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[Terrestrial] "HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m"

502	Grass	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	POWO (2025). Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; https://powo.science.kew.org/ . [Accessed 28 Oct 2025]	Asparagaceae

503	Nitrogen fixing woody plant	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	POWO (2025). Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; https://powo.science.kew.org/ . [Accessed 28 Oct 2025]	Asparagaceae

Qsn #	Question	Answer
504	Geophyte (herbaceous with underground storage organs -- bulbs, corms, or tubers)	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Bos, J. J. (1984). <i>Dracaena</i> in west Africa. Agricultural University, Wageningen, the Netherlands	"Shrubs or suffrutices up to 2½ m tall, usually unbranched, layering stems may produce several erect side-shoots, rarely divided into 3 stems at the base, stem short, erect, usually not exceeding 50 cm in W. Africa, distinctly cicatriced but often hidden by prophylls 7-12(-15) mm long, roots rarely inflated, dull orange in colour."

601	Evidence of substantial reproductive failure in native habitat	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"DISTRIBUTION. West Africa from Sierra Leone to Ivory Coast, from Nigeria to Uganda and Angola HABITAT. Moist forest; may be locally common; 600-850 m USES. None recorded CONSERVATION NOTES. Least Concern (LC)."

602	Produces viable seed	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	Bos, J. J. (1984). <i>Dracaena</i> in west Africa. Agricultural University, Wageningen, the Netherlands	"Fruits bright orange with a smooth shiny skin and slightly duller pulp, deeply 1-3 lobed, lobes ovoid, diverging, 8-18 mm x 5-9 mm x 4-6 mm, containing each a single seeds. Seeds dirty white, similar in shape to the fruit-lobes, 6-14 mm x 5- 7 mm x 3-6 mm when mature, flattened where pressed against adjacent seeds in 2-3 seeded fruits."
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"Fruits shiny bright orange, deeply 1-3-lobed, lobes ovoid, 8-18 mm long, 4-9 mm in diameter, each lobe 1-seeded; seeds dirty white, ovoid, 6-14 × 5-7mm."
	Faccenda, K. (2024). Report of 24 new naturalized weeds across the islands of Hawai'i. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers 156: 71-110	"Fruits were found on the plant in Kalihi and were photographed on one of the plants from Waimānalo, giving further evidence that this species is reproducing sexually and spreading."
	Dave's Garden. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/194537 . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	"Seed Collecting Remove fleshy coating on seeds before storing Seed does not store well; sow as soon as possible"

603	Hybridizes naturally	
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	No evidence
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	Unknown. Some <i>Dracaena</i> species (e.g., <i>D. fragrans</i> , <i>D. reflexa</i>) have been crossed artificially in horticulture, but these are controlled, human-mediated hybrids, not natural occurrences.

Qsn #	Question	Answer
604	Self-compatible or apomictic	
	Source(s)	Notes
	East, E. M. (1940). The distribution of self-sterility in the flowering plants. <i>Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society</i> 82: 449-518	[Possibly] "The Dracaenoidae are supposed to be self-fertile, though cross-pollination is, promoted by marked protogyny. Artificial self-pollination is certainly effective in <i>Cordyline terminalis</i> (L.) Kunth, <i>Dracaena fragrans</i> (L.) Ker-Gawl"

605	Requires specialist pollinators	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Bos, J. J. (1984). <i>Dracaena</i> in west Africa. Agricultural University, Wageningen, the Netherlands	"Field observation of pollination by insects are not known to me, but certain species of Hawk moths are likely to be pollinators. When a specimen of <i>D. arborea</i> was in flower in the glasshouse at WAG, it was illuminated by a floodlight at night. At about ten o'clock in the evening several specimens of Hawk moths were observed hovering above the inflorescence outside the glass roof. They were, undoubtedly, attracted by the heavy odour produced by the flowers, the odour easily passing through the rather leaky roof of the old glasshouse."
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"The flower types occurring in <i>Dracaena</i> can be divided into three groups on the basis of their form. <i>D. draco</i> and its allies have day blooming, short-tubed, stellate flowers that are adapted to bee pollination. The majority of the species, at one time placed in the genus <i>Pleomele</i> Salisbury, have nocturnal, long-tubes salverform whitish flowers that are adapted to moth pollination."

606	Reproduction by vegetative fragmentation	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	Tropical Plants Database, Ken Fern. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Dracaena+aubryana . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	" <i>Dracaena</i> species are generally easy to propagate. Only a small piece of the plant is required to form a new plant, and even when thrown away it may easily root"
	Dave's Garden. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/194537 . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	"This <i>Dracaena</i> is better in shades , does not resist too hot or direct sunlight. Flowers are fragrant especially at night. Grow easily from cuttings."
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"Though <i>Dracaena</i> reproduces vegetatively quite easily, animal activity that leads to breakage of shoots promotes this further."

607	Minimum generative time (years)	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	The exact time to maturity for <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> is unknown; however, based on information from related <i>Dracaena</i> species, it can be inferred that the species reaches reproductive maturity only after several years. <i>Dracaena</i> species are generally slow-growing woody monocots that flower infrequently, often requiring four or more years to produce inflorescences under suitable tropical or subtropical conditions.

701	Propagules likely to be dispersed unintentionally (plants growing in heavily trafficked areas)	y
	Source(s)	Notes

Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Bos, J. J. (1984). <i>Dracaena</i> in west Africa. Agricultural University, Wageningen, the Netherlands	"Fruits bright orange with a smooth shiny skin and slightly duller pulp, deeply 1-3 lobed, lobes ovoid, diverging, 8-18 mm x 5-9 mm x 4-6 mm, containing each a single seeds. Seeds dirty white, similar in shape to the fruitlobes, 6-14 mm x 5- 7 mm x 3-6 mm when mature, flattened where pressed against adjacent seeds in 2-3 seeded fruits." [Fruits & seeds lack means of external attachment, but might be dispersed by garden waste]
	Faccenda, K. (2024). Report of 24 new naturalized weeds across the islands of Hawai'i. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers 156: 71-110	[Dispersed by dumped garden waste] "A small patch of about five individuals of <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> was found about 15 meters away from a road in the back of Kalihi Valley. The plants were far enough from the road that it seemed unlikely they were dumped (dumped plants were noticed closer to the road)."

702	Propagules dispersed intentionally by people	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	Tropical Plants Database, Ken Fern. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Dracaena+aubryana . [Accessed 3 Nov 2025]	"It is often grown as an ornamental and also as a pot plant in cooler climates"
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	"Major Pathway/s: Ornamental Dispersed by: Humans"

703	Propagules likely to disperse as a produce contaminant	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Randall, R.P. (2017). A Global Compendium of Weeds. 3rd Edition. Perth, Western Australia. R.P. Randall	[No evidence] "Major Pathway/s: Ornamental Dispersed by: Humans"

704	Propagules adapted to wind dispersal	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Bos, J. J. (1984). <i>Dracaena</i> in west Africa. Agricultural University, Wageningen, the Netherlands	"Fruits bright orange with a smooth shiny skin and slightly duller pulp, deeply 1-3 lobed, lobes ovoid, diverging, 8-18 mm x 5-9 mm x 4-6 mm, containing each a single seeds. Seeds dirty white, similar in shape to the fruitlobes, 6-14 mm x 5- 7 mm x 3-6 mm when mature, flattened where pressed against adjacent seeds in 2-3 seeded fruits." [Fleshy-fruited. No apparent adaptations for anemochory]

705	Propagules water dispersed	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	" <i>Dracaena</i> in Kakamega seem dependent on animals for successful seed dispersal and subsequent establishment. Though <i>Dracaena</i> reproduces vegetatively quite easily, animal activity that leads to breakage of shoots promotes this further. <i>Dracaena</i> will also rely on the dispersing influence of primates, especially baboons, for maintenance of a healthy level of genetic exchange and colonization of new habitats. In this respect <i>Dracaena</i> contributes food to the animals while the animals disperse its seeds and strengthen possibilities for vegetative propagation. <i>Dracaena</i> therefore occupies an important position in the ecology of the forest."

706	Propagules bird dispersed	y
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Qsn #	Question	Answer
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[Fleshy-fruited, and presumably adapted for frugivory] "Fruits bright orange with a smooth shiny skin and slightly duller pulp, deeply 1-3 lobed, lobes ovoid, diverging, 8-18 mm x 5-9 mm x 4-6 mm, containing each a single seeds. Seeds dirty white, similar in shape to the fruit-lobes, 6-14 mm x 5- 7 mm x 3-6 mm when mature, flattened where pressed against adjacent seeds in 2-3 seeded fruits."

707	Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	"Fruits bright orange with a smooth shiny skin and slightly duller pulp, deeply 1-3 lobed, lobes ovoid, diverging, 8-18 mm x 5-9 mm x 4-6 mm, containing each a single seeds. Seeds dirty white, similar in shape to the fruit-lobes, 6-14 mm x 5- 7 mm x 3-6 mm when mature, flattened where pressed against adjacent seeds in 2-3 seeded fruits." [No evidence. Fruits & seeds lack means of external attachment]

708	Propagules survive passage through the gut	y
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[Presumably Yes] " <i>Dracaena</i> in Kakamega seem dependent on animals for successful seed dispersal and subsequent establishment. Though <i>Dracaena</i> reproduces vegetatively quite easily, animal activity that leads to breakage of shoots promotes this further. <i>Dracaena</i> will also rely on the dispersing influence of primates, especially baboons, for maintenance of a healthy level of genetic exchange and colonization of new habitats. In this respect <i>Dracaena</i> contributes food to the animals while the animals disperse its seeds and strengthen possibilities for vegetative propagation. <i>Dracaena</i> therefore occupies an important position in the ecology of the forest."

801	Prolific seed production (>1000/m2)	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[No evidence. Produces few seeded fruit] "Fruits bright orange with a smooth shiny skin and slightly duller pulp, deeply 1-3 lobed, lobes ovoid, diverging, 8-18 mm x 5-9 mm x 4-6 mm, containing each a single seeds. Seeds dirty white, similar in shape to the fruit-lobes, 6-14 mm x 5- 7 mm x 3-6 mm when mature, flattened where pressed against adjacent seeds in 2-3 seeded fruits."

802	Evidence that a persistent propagule bank is formed (>1 yr)	n
	Source(s)	Notes
	Dave's Garden. (2025). <i>Dracaena aubryana</i> . https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/194537 . [Accessed 4 Nov 2025]	"Remove fleshy coating on seeds before storing Seed does not store well; sow as soon as possible"

803	Well controlled by herbicides	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	Unknown. No information on herbicide efficacy or chemical control of this species

Qsn #	Question	Answer
804	Tolerates, or benefits from, mutilation, cultivation, or fire	
	Source(s)	Notes
	Mwachala, G. (2005). Systematics and Ecology of <i>Dracaena</i> L. (Ruscaceae) in Central, East and Southern Africa Ph.D. Dissertation, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany	[Possibly. Information not specific to <i>Dracaena aubryana</i>] "Though <i>Dracaena</i> reproduces vegetatively quite easily, animal activity that leads to breakage of shoots promotes this further."

805	Effective natural enemies present locally (e.g. introduced biocontrol agents)	
	Source(s)	Notes
	WRA Specialist. (2025). Personal Communication	Unknown

Summary of Risk Traits:

Dracaena aubryana (lance dracaena) is a tropical ornamental plant native to Angola, Cameroon, Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and the Gulf of Guinea Islands. It is commonly cultivated for its striking, lance-shaped leaves and upright growth habit, making it a popular choice for landscaping and indoor decoration. Like other *Dracaena* species, it tolerates shade and low maintenance conditions and can reproduce vegetatively from stem cuttings, which allows it to establish readily in suitable environments.

Recently, *Dracaena aubryana* has been reported as naturalized on the island of O'ahu, where it has begun spreading outside of cultivation. While its ecological impacts in Hawai'i are not yet known, its persistence in natural settings raises concerns about potential invasiveness. Continued observation will help determine whether management action is needed to prevent it from becoming a threat to native ecosystems.

High Risk / Undesirable Traits

- Suited to tropical/subtropical climates
- History of introduction outside native range
- Naturalized in new regions (e.g., Oahu)
- Toxic to pets (contains saponins)
- Shade tolerant
- Reproduces by seed and vegetative fragments
- Animal-dispersed fruits
- Human-dispersed (ornamental trade, garden waste)

Low Risk Traits

- Not reported as agricultural/environmental weed
- No spines/thorns
- Non-climbing, no dense thickets observed
- Low seed production
- No persistent seed bank
- Not wind or water dispersed

