

Biennial plant

Article Talk

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A **biennial plant** is a **flowering plant** that, generally in a **temperate climate**, takes two years to complete its biological life cycle.^{[1][2]}

In its first year, the biennial plant undergoes primary growth, during which its vegetative structures (leaves, stems, and roots) develop. Usually, the stem of the plant remains short and the leaves are low to the ground, forming a **rosette**. After one year's growing season, the plant enters a period of **dormancy** for the colder months. Many biennials require a cold treatment, or **vernalization** before they will flower.^[3] During the next **spring** or **summer**, the stem of the biennial plant elongates greatly, or "bolts".^[4] The plant then flowers, producing **fruits** and **seeds** before it finally dies. There are far fewer biennials than either **perennial plants** or **annual plants**.^[5]

Perennial

Article Talk

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*For other uses, see **Perennial (disambiguation)**.*

In botany, a **perennial plant** or simply **perennial** is a **plant** that lives more than two years.^[1] The term (*per-* + *-ennial*, "through the years") is often used to differentiate a plant from shorter-lived **annuals** and **biennials**. The term is also widely used to distinguish plants with little or no woody growth (secondary growth in girth) from trees and shrubs, which are also technically *perennials*.^[2] Notably, it is estimated that 94% of plant species fall under the category of perennials, underscoring the prevalence of plants with lifespans exceeding two years in the botanical world.^[3]

Perennials—especially small **flowering plants**—that grow and bloom over the spring and summer, die back every autumn and winter, and then return in the spring from their **rootstock** or other overwintering structure, are known as **herbaceous perennials**.^[4] However, depending on the rigours of the local climate (temperature, moisture,

Herbaceous plant

Article Talk

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(Redirected from **Herbaceous**)

*This article is about botanical herbs. For culinary and other herbs, see **Herb**.*

Herbaceous plants are **vascular plants** that have no persistent **woody stems** above ground.^{[1][2]} This broad category of plants includes many **perennials**, and nearly all **annuals** and **biennials**.^[3]

Definitions of "herb" and "herbaceous" [edit]

The fourth edition of the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* defines "herb" as:

- "A plant whose stem does not become woody and persistent (as in a tree or shrub) but remains soft and succulent, and dies (completely or down to the root) after flowering";
- "A (freq. aromatic) plant used for flavouring or scent, in medicine, etc.". (See: **Herb**)

Banana

Article Talk

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*This article is about the edible fruit. For other uses, see **Banana (disambiguation)**.*

A **banana** is an elongated, edible **fruit** – botanically a **berry**^[1] – produced by several kinds of large **herbaceous flowering plants** in the **genus** *Musa*. In some countries, **cooking bananas** are called plantains, distinguishing them from **dessert bananas**. The fruit is variable in size, color, and firmness, but is usually elongated and curved, with soft flesh rich in **starch** covered with a **rind**, which may have a variety of colors when ripe. The fruits grow upward in clusters near the top of the plant. Almost all modern edible seedless (**parthenocarp**) bananas come from two wild species – *Musa acuminata* and *Musa balbisiana*. Most cultivated bananas are *M. acuminata*, *M. balbisiana*, or hybrids of the two.