'Saba' is the name given in the Philippines to a cooking banana belonging to the Saba subgroup. Its classification at the genome group level has been disputed ever since it was suggested to be a triploid derived from crosses between *Musa balbisiana* only[1]. Whereas some molecular analyses seem to support a BBB genome group[234], morphological traits characteristic of *Musa acuminata*, such as curly bracts, place it among the ABB. On the other hand, if backcrossing occurred[5], it is possible that backcrosses with *M. balbisiana* might have led to the substitution of *M. acuminata* genes by *M. balbisiana* ones, leaving only remnants of the original *M. acuminata* genome.

'Saba' is especially popular in the Philippines, where the male bud is also eaten as a vegetable.

### Local names

'Pisang Kepok' (Indonesia), 'Pisang Abu Nipah' (Malaysia), 'Saba' (Philippines), 'Kluai Hin' (Thailand)[67]

### Reaction to diseases and pests

In the Philippines, where the TR4 strain of the *Fusarium* fungus is present, Saba (Cardava) did not show symptoms of *Fusarium wilt* in field trials[8].

### References


Poster on the field resistance of banana cultivars against TR4 in the Philippines

See also on this website
- Photos of 'Saba' in Musarama
- Articles on 'Saba' in Musalit
- Local names for 'Saba' in the cultivar checklist
- Musapedia pages on cultivars:
  - Apantu
  - Asupina
  - Bira
  - Bogoya
  - Bungulan
  - Figue Pomme
  - Gerei Langi
  - Giant Cavendish
  - Grande Naine
  - Gros Michel
  - Huamoa
  - Iholena Ilele
  - Inarnibal
  - Karat
  - Kayinja
  - Kisubi
  - Kolale
  - Lahi
  - Lai
  - Lakatan
  - Latundan
  - Maoli Maoli
  - Mbwazirume
  - Mysore
  - Ney Poovan
  - Obino I'Ewai
  - Pei Chiao
  - Pelipita
  - Pisang Awak
  - Pisang Jari Buaya
  - Pisang Lilin
  - Pisang Raja
Pitogo
Saba
Sucier
Sukali Ndizi
To'o
Williams
Yangambi Km5

External links
To browse accession-level information on 'Saba' in MGIS

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The original document is available at http://www.promusa.org/Saba