'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\(^2\)\(^3\)\(^4\), 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.

### Contents

- Local names
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### Local names

'Pisang Kepok' (Indonesia), 'Pisang Abu Nipah' (Malaysia), 'Saba' (Philippines), 'Kluai Hin' (Thailand)\(^6\)\(^7\)

### 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


8. 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 l'Ewai
- Pei Chiao
- Pelipita
- Pisang Awak
- Pisang Jari Buaya
- Pisang Lilin
- Pisang Raja
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