

Is Monestra a Philodendron?

Is Monestra a Philodendron? *Monstera Deliciosa* is one of the house plants which gone famous really fast and so popular that almost everyone keeps or wants to keep it in their house. Monestra is tropically native to Mexico where mostly is being kept for its fruit.

This plant thrives at house and pots too so you can easily take care of it without almost any effort, they don't need so much water, is partially sunlight tolerant and can grow insanely large.

This plant has lots of nicknames, many call it Fruit salad plant because of its tasty fruit, some call it Swiss cheese plant because of its holes on the leaves and those hole will develop in the right environment.

About Philodendrons they are pretty large genus of flowering plants, if you like gardening you are probably familiar with some of its members such as peace lily.

The Monestra is not a Philodendron.

Both Monestra and philodendrons are from Arum family which it is much larger group of plants and they are one of the world's prettiest and also easiest houseplants. Almost everything about these plants are like each other, from their needs such as light, water and soil, to their climate and what they contain in their leaves and stem which is calcium oxalate, and this is the matter which makes the plant toxic to both humans and pets.

Both these plants looks like the same with broad lobes, lacy fingers, heart-shaped leaves and bright pink veins. Monestra looks and acts like Philodendron and even though it is not classified as one most of the people think they are same and always mistaken them for each other.

No wonder we mistaken them and get confused because there are two true species of philodendron, their name is philodendron bipinnatifidum and philodendron selloum. These plants are completely different from *Monstera*s but sometimes they go by the same nickname.

[Here is how to tell if a plant Monestra or Philodendron:](#)

Most people associate Monestras with dark green leaves, on the other hand philodendrons usually bring to mind colorful heart-shaped leaves and veins, but here comes a problem which is some varieties of Monestras and philodendron don't look alike what you expected.

Here are some examples of Philodendrons and Monestras that don't show the characteristic mentioned and relative to their other species:

1. Split-leaf Philodendron looks very similar to Monestra deliciosa
2. The bush of the heart-leaf philodendron also is being mistaken for young Monestra
3. Species such as Monestra Dbia and Monestra Siltepecana have leaves that look more alike typical philodendron leaves.

Both Monestra and philodendron are plants in the family of Araceae, this group is being known under the name of "Aroids" or "Arums" this massive family has more than 3700 species like Caladiums, Alocasia, the ZZ plant, and even edible species like Taro.

Origins of these plants are from tropical areas, native to America and West Indies. These plants use aerial roots to grow on trees and take and use tree as a host and take everything they need from the host like nutrients, water and etc.

Reference: <https://apartmentflowers.com/is-monestra-a-philodendron-100practical/>