

Ricinus communis



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Scientific name: *Ricinus communis*

Common name(s): Castor Bean

Name as shown in Phylogenies: Castor Bean

Ploidy: Diploid

Description:

Ricinus communis (castor bean) is an oilseed crop that belongs to the Euphorbiaceae family, which includes important crops such as cassava (*Manihot esculenta*), rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) and physic nut (*Jatropha curcas*).

It is primarily grown for the seed oil, which is used for the production of high-quality lubricants. Castor bean seeds are also the source of the toxin ricin, and thus is an important species from a biosecurity perspective.

Reference(s):

1. Chan AP, et al. Draft genome sequence of the oilseed species *Ricinus communis*. Nat Biotechnol. 2010 Sep;28(9):951-6. doi: [10.1038/nbt.1674](https://doi.org/10.1038/nbt.1674).

Genome Database(s):

[Castor Bean Genome Annotation](#)
[CastorBeanDB](#)