

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Alluaudia procera: Madagascar's thorny character tree

Small leaves, pale stems and strong thorns make this succulent unmistakable. Its natural rhythm explains why temporary leaf loss is not automatically a care mistake.



AI-created scene based on the original shop photograph. Size reference: 14 cm pot · approximately 35 cm. Decoration is not included; this is not a scale product photograph.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

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PLANT PORTRAIT

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Botanical classification	Alluaudia procera
Family	Didiereaceae
Origin	Southern Madagascar
Delivery size	14 cm pot · approximately 35 cm
Habit and special feature	Upright succulent shoots with thorns and small leaves

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Light	Sunny; introduce new sun exposure gradually.	Light maintains the species' typical habit.
Water	During growth, water after noticeable drying.	Succulent shoots bridge dry periods.
Rest period	Water much more sparingly during leaf loss and limited growth.	Leaf fall can be part of the natural rhythm.
Compost	Use free-draining succulent compost with mineral components.	Roots must not remain constantly wet.
Drainage	Use a pot with holes and remove leftover water.	Standing moisture encourages rot.
Feeding	Feed sparingly only during visible growth.	Resting plants use few nutrients.
Winter	Keep bright, protected and frost-free.	Its origin does not justify frost hardiness in a small pot.
Safety	Allow clearance from thorns and protect hands when potting.	The strong thorns can cause injury.

Knowledge that grows

A tree from a distinctive plant world

Alluaudia procera comes from dry landscapes in southern Madagascar and belongs to the Didiereaceae. Its upright, pale shoots carry strong thorns and small leaves. It is not a cactus, although its way of life is adapted to dry conditions. In nature it can become a substantial tree; a potted plant remains much smaller. The alternation between leafy growing periods and a temporarily sparser shape is particularly interesting.

Present the young plant thoughtfully

The listing offers an *Alluaudia* in a 14 cm pot with about 35 cm total height. Its shoots need a safe place away from narrow walkways and beyond the reach of small children or animals. A bright console or protected summer terrace position shows its silhouette well. A stable pot prevents tipping, but its size must not exceed the root ball excessively. The scene shows the young delivery size as a furnishing idea; decoration is not automatically included.

Light and warmth set the pace

Choose a sunny position and slowly acclimatise the plant to strong direct sunshine after transport or winter shelter. Warmth and air exchange are beneficial during growth. Outside, choose a wind-sheltered place and avoid persistent rain. Bring indoors frost-free in good time in autumn. A dark apartment corner is not a suitable winter solution: even a sparsely leafy succulent needs a bright position.

Observe leaves and check the root ball

During active growth, water thoroughly after noticeable drying, then allow to drain well. In a resting period, particularly with leaf loss and limited light, water much more sparingly. Leaf fall alone does not establish thirst. Firm shoots and a dry root ball may fit a rest period; soft areas together with wet compost, however, require close examination. Do not try to force new leaves with daily watering.

Free-draining compost and careful hands

Airy succulent compost with a strong mineral component and unobstructed drainage holes are important. Sturdy gloves and suitable tools protect against thorns during repotting. Choose only the next appropriate pot size and maintain the previous planting depth. Injure healthy roots as little as possible. During visible growth, sparse feeding according to the label is enough. Do not feed in advance during a resting, sparsely leafy period.

Prune little and observe closely

The striking habit needs no regular shaping cuts. Treat damaged shoots with clean tools only when necessary. Check young leaves and thorn bases for mealybugs and other sap-sucking pests. An adjustment period may follow a change of position; several changes at once make assessment harder. Instead, note light, root-ball moisture and development over a few weeks. *Alluaudia* is an ornamental plant and is not used as food or a home remedy.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop photograph: Alluaudia procera. 14 cm pot · approximately 35 cm. Natural variation is possible.



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Good to know

Is Alluaudia a cactus?

No. It belongs to a different plant family, the Didiereaceae, and comes from Madagascar.

Why does it lose leaves?

A drier resting period or change of position may trigger leaf fall. Check stem firmness and root-ball moisture too.

Should I water more when leaves fall?

Not automatically. Less water is needed particularly during rest; wet compost can make things worse.

How large is this presentation?

The checked listing offers a 14 cm pot with about 35 cm total height.

The matching offer

[Plant in the shop](#)

The linked shop is in German. Product details, availability and delivery information are provided in that shop.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer (in German)