Dyckia is a genus of bromeliad found within the Pitcairnioideae subfamily of bromeliads. There are 120 different species of Dyckia with many more cultivars. Each species of Dyckia is unique, but there are several characteristics that apply to most Dyckias, which make them standout from other bromeliads.

Most Dyckias are native to Brazil, but a few originate from other South American countries such as Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia.

Dyckias typically have long narrow leaves and almost all have sharp spines or hooks around the margins of each leaf. Dyckias can be found in shades of red, green, yellow and silver. Many of the plants appear to have a beautiful silver flocking on the spines and edges of the leaf. The leaves form a tight rosette that often curves down around itself, and they can drape beautifully over the sides of containers. They range in size from just a few inches across to several feet wide. Many of the plants within the genus have tall flower spikes that tower above the foliage. The flower spikes often produce only very small flowers in oranges, reds and yellows.

**Name(s)** | Dychia  
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**Origin** | South America  
**Flowering** | Unlike most other bromeliads, Dyckias can flower seasonally. They will continue to grow after they flower and even have the ability to flower again. A Dyckia planted from seed can take up to three years to reach maturity and bloom.  
**Temperature** | Warm, arid climates  
**Light** | Dyckias enjoy full sun. They can also tolerate lower light levels, but it may change the color of the leaves. The Bromeliad Society/Houston suggests 5000 foot-candles for best results.  
**Watering** | Dyckias can survive but not thrive in drought conditions. During growing season they require plenty of water. When they become too dry they will first stop growing and then wilt. They recover quickly once watered. Allow the plant to dry more between waterings during the winter.  
**Soil** | Use a potting mix heavy in organic matter and includes water retaining polymers.  
**Fertilizer** | Use fertilizer to encourage growth during the spring and summer. Stop fertilizing during the winter.  
**Repotting** | Dyckias, unlike most bromeliads, have extensive root systems and require containers that are at least as large as the plant itself. They will usually grow into the size of the pot where it is planted.  
**Pruning** | Due to the unbelievably vicious spines these are the most difficult and dangerous of all the bromeliad species to prune.  
**Propagation** | Some Dyckias produce pups or offsets which is common among bromeliads. Other species don’t produce pups, but divide at the head. When planted in the ground, Dyckias can make thick ground cover. When grown in a pot, they will eventually need to be separated and replanted. Remove pups when they are at least half the size of the mother plant. Dyckia pups grow new roots very slowly so use a rooting hormone to encourage growth. Use a small pot until the roots are established and then repot in a larger container. Use a small saw to separate plants that have divided at the head. This is very difficult to accomplish without damaging one or both of the plants so separate the plants with as many of the roots intact as possible. Even if you don’t want to separate your plants it is wise to repot them after two or three years. By this time the nutrients in the potting mix will be depleted. Carefully remove the plant. Then dump out any remaining potting mix. Clean the container well and rinse it well. Then place a new, well draining potting mix in the container and situate the plant back in the container. The Bromeliad Society/Houston recommends Small rocks and pebbles make an excellent top dressing. Always use gloves and wear long sleeve shirts when handling sharp plants.  

https://www.bromeliads.info/all-about-dyckias/  

Updated 10/09/19