

Washingtonia filifera

(Desert Palm)

Desert Fan Palm is straight, single-trunked street. The lower leaves persist on the tree after they die, forming a dense, brown, shaggy covering below the living, grey/green, broad, fan-shaped leaf with hairy filament. These dead fronds are known to be a fire hazard. The stalk of the leaves is very spines. Inflorescences are made of slender, dropping branches with white fragrant flowers. It requires soil which is extremely well-drained to prevent trunk or root rot. It has moderate salt tolerance. Desert Fan Palm is better suited to the home landscape since it grows more slowly and is shorter. They reportedly suffer and often die from root rot when irrigated.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Washingtonia ou Palmier du Mexique
Pronounciation: wosh-ing-TOE-nee-uh fill-LIFF-er-uh
Plant Type: Palm
Origin: Southern USA
Heat Zones: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
Hardiness Zones: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Uses: Specimen, Container, Edible, Wildlife, Street
Size/Shape
Growth Rate: Moderate
Tree Shape: oval
Canopy Symmetry: Symmetrical
Canopy Density: Open
Canopy Texture: Coarse
Height at Maturity: Over 23
Spread at Maturity: 3 to 5 meters
Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

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Leaf Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Spiral

Leaf Venation: Palmate

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Costapalmate

Leaf Blade: Over 80 cm

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Rough

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: Over 20

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: White

Seasons: Spring

Trunk

Trunk Has Crownshaft: False

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Single Trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Rough Texture

Fruit

Fruit Type: Berry

Fruit Showiness: False

Fruit Size Range: 0 - 1.5

Fruit Colors: Black

Seasons: Spring

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Bark Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Good

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Moderate, Low

Light Requirements: Full

Management

Toxity: No

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: Yes

Mowing Height: 5 - 7 cm

Pruning Requirement: No pruning at all

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Life Span: 25-50 years

Edible Parts: Fruit

Pests: Mites, Nematodes

Plant Propagations: Cutting
