

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

<b>French Name:</b> Washingtonia ou Palmier du Mexique
<b>Pronounciation:</b> wosh-ing-TOE-nee-uh fill-LIFF-er-uh
<b>Plant Type:</b> Palm
<b>Origin:</b> Southern USA
<b>Heat Zones:</b> 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
<b>Hardiness Zones:</b> 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
<b>Uses:</b> Specimen, Container, Edible, Wildlife, Street

Size/Shape

<b>Growth Rate:</b> Moderate
<b>Tree Shape:</b> oval
<b>Canopy Symmetry:</b> Symmetrical
<b>Canopy Density:</b> Open
<b>Canopy Texture:</b> Coarse
<b>Height at Maturity:</b> Over 23
<b>Spread at Maturity:</b> 3 to 5 meters
<b>Time to Ultimate Height:</b> 10 to 20 Years

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(Desert Palm)



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

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### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** Yes

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Good

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### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Alkaline

**Water Requirements:** Moderate, Low

**Light Requirements:** Full

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### 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

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