

Yucca aloifolia

(Spanish Bayonet, Aloe Yucca)

Spanish bayonet is native to coastal areas of USA, Mexico and in the West Indies. Plants produce a trunk-like stem over time that may branch with age reaching up to 6 m tall before it becomes top-heavy and topples over. When that happens, the tip turns upward and keeps on growing. Aloe yucca has flexible, linear blades that rise from a dense, tight rosette. Each blade is armed with a wickedly sharp leaf tip. Eventually the tip of the trunk develops a long spike of white, purplish-tinged flowers. The flowers are pollinated under moonlight by moths. Bulbous green fruit capsules follow that turn dry, brown and split open when fully ripe. Spanish bayonet will flourish in full sun with light, sandy soil. Drought and salt tolerant. Used as an accent plant behind borders or beds. Plant them far from reach of children or pets due to its sharp leaves.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

**French Name:** Yucca, Baïonnette espagnole, Dague espagnole

**Pronunciation:** YUCK-kuh al-loe-iff-FOLE-lee-uh

**Plant Type:** Shrub

**Origin:** Southeastern United States, Caribbean

**Heat Zones:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

**Hardiness Zones:** 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

**Uses:** Screen, Specimen, Wildlife

Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Slow

**Tree Shape:** Upright

**Canopy Symmetry:** Symmetrical

**Canopy Density:** Medium

**Canopy Texture:** Coarse

**Height at Maturity:** 1.5 to 3 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 0.5 to 1 meter

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 2 to 5 Years

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Flower Image

## Botanical Description

### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Alternate

**Leaf Venation:** Parallel

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 20 - 30

**Leaf Margins:** Serrate

**Leaf Textures:** Rough

**Leaf Scent:** Unpleasant

**Color(growing season):** Green

**Color(changing season):** Green

### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** Over 20

**Flower Type:** Spike

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** Pleasant

**Flower Color:** White

**Seasons:** Spring, Summer

### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage

**Number of Trunks:** Can be trained to one trunk

### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Capsule

**Fruit Showiness:** False

**Fruit Size Range:** 0 - 1.5

**Fruit Colors:** Black

**Seasons:** Spring, Summer

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Bark Image

### Horticulture Management

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#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** Yes

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Moderate

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Neutral

**Water Requirements:** Moderate, Low

**Light Requirements:** Full

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#### Management

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** No pruning at all

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** Yes

**Life Span:** 25-50 years

**Edible Parts:**

**Pests:** Scales

**Plant Propagations:** Cutting, Division

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Other Image