

Agave americana

(Century plant)

Agave americana is a monocarpic plant. It flowers once after 10 years or more, reaching a height of 6 meters. The plant dies after blooming.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Agave Américain

Pronunciation: a-GAH-vee a-mer-ih-KAY-na

Plant Type: Cactus / Succulent

Origin: North America

Heat Zones: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Hardiness Zones: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Uses: Specimen, Mass Planting, Container

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Slow

Tree Shape: Round

Canopy Density: Medium

Canopy Texture: Coarse

Height at Maturity: 1.5 to 3 m

Spread at Maturity: 1.5 to 3 meters

Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

Companion Plants: Lavandula spp., Yucca, Penstemon, Aloe vera

Notes

Landscape Design Advice: The plant is typically used in residences as a free-standing specimen, not planted in mass. However larger commercial landscapes have room for mass plantings which can create a dramatic impact. Locate it at least 2 meters away from walks and other areas where people could contact the spiny foliage.

Agave americana

(Century plant)



Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Nearly Invisible

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: Over 80 cm

Leaf Shape: Linear

Leaf Margins: Spiny

Leaf Textures: Rough

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Blue-Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: Over 20

Flower Type: Spike

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: Pleasant

Flower Color: Yellow, White

Seasons: Summer

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Fruit

Fruit Showiness: False

Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Brown

Seasons: Summer

Agave americana

(Century plant)



© Photo by LDEM AUB

Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Good

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral

Water Requirements: Low

Light Requirements: Full

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: No pruning at all

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Life Span: Less than 25

Edible Parts:

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting, Division, Offset

MORE IMAGES



Bark Image



Other Image