

Hyophorbe lagenicaulis

(Bottle palm)

This palm is endemic to the Mascarene Islands, next to Madagascar. It is critically endangered almost to the point of extinction in its natural range. There are said to be fewer than 15 specimens remaining in the wild. The smooth, light gray trunk has a bottle shape from where it received its name. . On top of the trunk sits a bright green crownshaft (from which the fronds emerge) and the large pinnately compound leaves. Its slender, lance-shaped leaflets are dark green, approximately 50 cm long, and grow opposite from one another to form a "V" shape . Male and female flowers occur on the same inflorescence and are white or cream colored. The bottle palm is very slow growing but can reach 6-8 m eventually. Bottle palm requires full sun and relatively fertile, fast draining soil. Avoid very sandy soil.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Palmier bouteille

Pronunciation: mass-kar-EE-huh lag-en-ee-KAW-liss

Plant Type: Palm

Origin: Mascarene Island

Heat Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Hardiness Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13

Uses: Specimen, Indoor, Container

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Slow

Tree Shape: Palm

Canopy Symmetry: Irregular

Canopy Density: Open

Canopy Texture: Coarse

Height at Maturity: 3 to 5 m

Spread at Maturity: 3 to 5 meters

Time to Ultimate Height: 20 to 50 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Spiral

Leaf Venation: Parallel

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Odd Pinnately compound

Leaf Blade: 50 - 80

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Glossy, Medium

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Flower Type: Panicle

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Yellow

Seasons: Summer

Trunk

Trunk Has Crownshaft: True

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Single Trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Showy, Smooth

Fruit

Fruit Type: Drupe

Fruit Showiness: False

Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Brown

Seasons: Summer

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: No

Salt Tolerance: Moderate

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Moderate, Low

Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: No

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Little needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: More than 50

Edible Parts: None

Pests: Mites

Plant Propagations: Seed

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