

Botanical Name: Agave shawii

Common Name: Shaw's agave

Type of Plant: monocot; perennial Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

verall Shape a low-growing, clumping plant, with distinctive stiff, fleshy dark green leaves crowded in rosette patterns on the short stems

Height 2' - 4' Spread equal or more Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure outdoors thrives in full sun; tolerates partial inland

Soil requires well-draining; tolerates clay if kept rather dry

Hardiness some frost (zones 18-24): prefers warm marine climate areas

Morphology:

Leaves succulent, ovate to somewhat lanceolate, whorled in basal rosette fashion; dark green, stiff, glossy, concave upper surface; 10"-20" long with red hooked prickles on the margins and terminal spine

Flowers yellow, 2"-4" long, produced on spectacular flower stalk 3' - 8' tall; September - May

Fruit a capsule: 1" - 2" long

Propagation: seed or division of the clump

Usage: an excellent small accent shrub, used for its distinctive dark green foliage and overall form; suitable as container plant; rock gardens, tropical, subtropical or desert theme; low informal boundary plantings

Landscape Care:

Watering very little is required after establishment; avoid over-watering in cool areas with clay soils

Fertilizing none required

Pruning none; after several years the clump may be thinned

Pests/Diseases root rot diseases in wet poorly-drained areas

Special Conditions flower stalks develop on older plants

Origin: San Diego Co. to No. Baja Family: Agavaceae