

Botanical Name: Yucca elephantipes (Y. gigantea)

Common Name: Giant yucca

Type of Plant: monocot: tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an erect, many-trunked plant, which forms a large clump of rather slender 1'-1-1/2' diameter trunks as it matures; the clump is swollen at the base; each stalk crowned with stiff narrow sword-like leaves

Height 15-30' Spread 1/2 to equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil prefers a fast-draining soil; can tolerate most locations

Hardiness some frost (zones 12,13,16,17,19-24); thrives in warm

Morphology:

Leaves sword-shaped, narrow, dark green, 4'-5' long, 3" wide; clumping outwards at the ends of the stalks; tips are stiff but not sharp

Flowers creamy white, 1" diameter, borne in 3-5' panicles among the leaves; summer

Fruit a capsule; elongate, 1" long, dark gray when ripe

Propagation: seed or dimension of the clump

Usage: a dramatic large-scale accent shrub or small tree used for its distinctive form and glossy foliage; suitable for large area landscapes for desert, subtropical or tropical theme landscapes

Landscape Care:

Watering an occasional deep soak; tolerates lawn watering if drainage is good; fairly drought-tolerant after established

Fertilizing little is needed

Pruning open up clump as plant matures by removing some stalks

Pests/Diseases crown rot in wet adobe soils

Special Conditions

Origin: Mexico Family: Agavaceae