

Botanical Name: Beaucarnea recurvata (Nolina tuberculata)

Common Name: Bottle palm, Ponytail palm

Type of Plant: monocot; treelike Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an erect, single-trunked palmlike plant; develops a slender trunk with an unusual swollen base and crown of arching sword-like leaves; may multi-trunked with age, with the base greatly enlarged

Height 10'-20' (25') Spread 4'-10' Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure outdoors thrives in full sun; tolerates considerable shade

Soil sandy, well-draining; avoid wet poorly-drained locations

Hardiness some frost (zones 13, 16-24); prefers warm dry habitats

Morphology:

Leaves narrow, sword-shaped, whorled from stem apex, 4-6' long, 1" width, somewhat leathery, yellow-green; have a distinctively long taper

Flowers creamy white, in small panicles (only in old plants); the inflorescences develop in late spring-summer, and arise above the foliage clump

Fruit a capsule; oblong, 3/4"-1" long when ripe

Propagation: seed

Usage: a very striking accent tree for its dramatic and unusual form; is an excellent container plant; best for subtropical/tropical landscapes; useful with Spanish- Mediterranean or modern architecture

Landscape care:

Watering: very drought tolerant after established; tolerates regular watering if soil drainage is excellent

Fertilizing as needed; may require feeding in wet locations

Pruning none, except to remove old leaves and flower stalks

Pests/Diseases relatively free; crown rot in poor-drainage site

Special Conditions can be used indoors if given sufficient light

Origin: Mexico Family: Agavaceae