

Botanical Name: Yucca gloriosa

Common Name: Spanish dagger

Type of Plant: monocot: tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright, w/several stems arising from a common swollen base  
to form a clump; each stem is sheathed with outwardly spreading stiff sword-  
like green leaves

Height 6-15' (20') Spread 1/2 to equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil tolerates most; prefers well-draining loam

Hardiness some frost (zones 7-9,14-24); thrives in warm sun

Morphology:

Leaves sword-like, whorled, very stiff, 2-5' long, medium green,  
2-3" wide, with stiff pointed tips

Flowers white, 1" diameter, in 2-3' long erect panicles, late  
spring-summer

Fruit a capsule: oval, 1-1/2"-2" long, leathery

Propagation: seed or division of the clump

Usage: a large accent shrub or small accent tree valued for  
distinctive form and foliage - excellent for tropical, desert or subtropical  
landscapes; used as a container plant or barrier

Landscape Care:

Watering an occasional deep soak; is very drought-tolerant after  
established

Fertilizing very little required

Pruning thin out clump for dramatic form; head back if too tall

Pests/Diseases root rot in wet clay soils

Special Conditions

Origin: Mexico Family: Agavaceae