

Botanical Name: Washingtonia robusta

Common Name: Mexican fan palm

Type of Plant: monocot: treelike Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an erect, single-trunked palm, becoming very tall and slender as it matures; trunk mostly 1-2' diameter; is not self-cleaning; the old fan-shaped fronds cling to trunk as "shag"

Height 30-80'(100') Spread 5-10' Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil sandy loam preferred; can tolerate most well-draining soils

Hardiness some frost (zones 8-24); thrives in hot desert areas

Morphology:

Leaves fan-shaped fronds; blade is cut nearly to middle, bright glossy green; petiole heavily armed; leaves 4-8' long, 3-4' broad

Flowers creamy white, in long panicles arising between the fronds; spring-summer

Fruit a drupe: black, 1/4"-1/2" diameter

Propagation: seed

Usage: a widely used vertical accent for its form and foliage; good for tropical effects; street or lawn tree; most commonly used fan palm in California

Landscape Care:

Watering regular preferred; but tolerates drought after established

Fertilizing little is needed after established

Pruning none, except to remove old leaves or flower stalks

Pests/Diseases relatively free; penicillium wilt in poorly drained soils

Special Conditions

Origin: Mexico & Baja California Family: Areaceae