



Plant Identification Newsletter

THIS ISSUE: PALMS

IDENTIFY
PLANTS!

LEARN THE
IMPORTANCE!

ELIMINATE PLANT
BLINDNESS!



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PINEAPPLE PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Phoenix canariensis

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Coast of Northwestern Africa

SIZE: 40-60' HT / 20-25' SPD

COLORS: Green/Yellow

TYPE: Palm Tree

LIGHT: Full Sun

SOIL: Clay, Loam, Sand, Well-drained



CABBAGE PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Sabal palm

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Native

SIZE: 40-50' HT / 10-15' SPD

COLORS: Green

TYPE: Palm Tree

LIGHT: Full Sun/Part Shade

SOIL: Clay, Well-Drained

MEXICAN FAN PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Washingtonia robusta

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Baja Mexico

SIZE: 100' HT / 10-12' SPD

COLORS: Green leaves

TYPE: Palm Tree

LIGHT: Full Sun

SOIL: Well-drained



PYGMY DATE PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Phoenix roebelenii

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Southeast Asia

SIZE: 6' HT / 3-6" SPD

COLORS: Gray-Green Leaves

TYPE: Palm Tree

LIGHT: Full Sun

SOIL: Well-drained

ARECA PALM TREE

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chrysalidocarpus lutescens*

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Humid tropics of Madagascar

SIZE: 6-7' HT / 3-4' SPD (indoors)

15-30' HT / 8-10' SPD (outdoors)

COLORS: Yellowish green to dark green

TYPE: Palm tree

LIGHT: Full Sun/Partial Shade

SOIL: Moist but well drained



FLORIDA THATCH PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Thrinax radiata*

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Native

SIZE: 15-30' HT / 5-15' SPD

COLORS: Leaves are green/yellow

TYPE: Palm tree

LIGHT: Full Sun/Partial Shade

SOIL: Well drained soils

LADY PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Rhapis excelsa*

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Not native to Fl

SIZE: 10-15' HT / 5-15' SPD

COLORS: Dark green

TYPE: Palm/Shrub

LIGHT: Full Shade/Partial Shade

SOIL: Moist, well-drained soil



BISMARK PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Bismarckia nobilis*

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Not native to Fl

SIZE: 25-50' HT / 15-20' SPD

COLORS: Blue/gray, almost silver

TYPE: Palm tree

LIGHT: Full Sun/Part Shade

SOIL: Well drained, sand or loam

TRAVELERS PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ravenala madagascariensis*

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Madagascar

SIZE: 30' HT / 18' SPD

COLORS: Green, Yellow, Orange

TYPE: Palm Tree

LIGHT: Full Shade

SOIL: Moist, Well-drained



LIPSTICK PALM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cyrtostachys renda*

FAMILY: Arecaceae

ORIGIN: Asia

SIZE: 25-35' HT / 12-20' SPD

COLORS: Green, Red, White

TYPE: Palm tree

LIGHT: Full Sun/Part Shade

SOIL: Well drained, moist or loam

Why are Palms Important?

Palm trees are vital globally and in Florida for their aesthetic, economic, environmental, and cultural contributions. They enhance landscapes, attract tourists, and support the landscaping and horticulture industries. In Florida, tourism benefits immensely from the picturesque presence of palm trees, contributing to the state's thriving tourism sector. Environmentally, palm trees provide wildlife habitats, improve air quality, and help prevent soil erosion, crucial for hurricane-prone areas like Florida. Culturally and historically, palms have been used for food, materials, and shelter, with species like Florida's state tree, the Sabal palm, symbolizing natural heritage. Overall, their multifaceted importance makes palm trees indispensable in both local and global contexts.

