

# Palms & Cycads

Grown in the Northern Territory - ideal for Australian conditions

## Palm Species

### BAMBOO PALM

*Chamaedora sefrizii*

Origin: South America

An elegant palm with an erect clumping habit and dark green finely pinnate leaves up the stems. Grows to 3m tall.

**Garden setting:** prefers well-drained rich organic loams, in a shaded position. Needs protection from sun and wind. Keep well watered all year round.

**Pot culture:** An ideal indoor palm that can be quite tolerant to low light levels. Also can be a highly decorative tub specimen for outdoor settings.



### GOLDEN CANE

*Dypsis lutescens*

Origin: Madagascar

A wonderfully versatile palm, whether planted as a lawn specimen or as a fence line cover. A clumping palm with golden stems topped with a crown of curved, yellow-green pinnate fronds. Can reach 10 metres in height.

**Garden setting:** Prefers a sunny position in rich, well-drained soils. Very popular in the tropics and subtropics but can be grown in temperate regions. Young plants may be cold sensitive.

**Pot culture:** an excellent patio and indoor specimen for cooler climes if placed in a warm sunny position.

### MATARANKA PALM

*Livistona rigida*

Origin: Australia

This tall single stemmed palm can grow to 15m tall. The grey to blue-green foliage may take on a drooping habit when mature.

**Garden setting:** plant in a sunny position. Ideal landscaping specimen, presenting a majestic display when planted in group settings. This hardy palm can withstand lower temperatures, making it suitable for temperate and tropical climates.

**Pot culture:** the juvenile plants have striking red to purplish fronds, which make this palm a most unusual pot specimen. Suited to a full sun position in all climates. Fertilise in summer months.



### FOXTAIL PALM

*Wodyetia bifurcata*

Origin: Australia (north-eastern Queensland)

A single stemmed palm with a slightly bottle shaped trunk. Grows to 15m tall, with graceful dark green arching fronds.

**Garden setting:** Plant in a deep well-drained soil protected from cold winds. These deep-rooted palms like a soaking watering, but can withstand periodical dry spells once well established. Group plantings of 3-4m apart make an attractive display. Fertilise regularly in the summer.

**Pot culture:** typical of many hardy Australian natives, this plant has strong longitudinal roots, which do not form a solid root mass, so making this palm unsuitable for pot culture.



### DWARF DATE PALM

*Phoenix rebeleinii*

Origin: China

This dwarf date palm is very adaptable to coastal districts of the subtropics, and will happily grow in temperate regions. Grows to 3-4m tall, with fronds which curve downwards in a unformed graceful display.

**Garden setting:** this hardy plant likes a sunny position and can be thought tolerant once established.

**Pot culture:** the uniform shape of this palm makes it an outstanding pot specimen both for patio and indoors. Fertilise regularly in the summer.



### LADY PALM

*Rhapsis exaltata*

Origin: China

A multi stemmed segmented fan palm that forms dense clumps with foliage persistent to the ground.

**Garden setting:** a warm shaded position with rich organic soil. Cold tolerant and will grow in temperate regions when protected from frosts.

**Pot culture:** this highly prized palm is unsurpassed as a tub specimen and can remain in the same container for years.

### MADAGASCAR BLUE

*Cyatas thouarsii*

Origin: Madagascar

A majestic cycad, with an attractive bluish green foliage. One of the larger cycads which can reach 10m in height when grown in warmer areas.

**Garden setting:** this fast growing cycad prefers light shade and humid conditions. Suited to tropical and subtropical regions.

**Pot culture:** an excellent tub specimen for the patio or indoors when grown in a well lit area. Plant in well drained potting mix and water lightly.



### SAGO PALM

*Cycas revoluta*

Origin: Japan

The most widely grown of all the cycad species. This long-living and compact plant has a handsome display of glossy stiff fronds. A medium sized cycad with numerous suckers arising from the base.

**Garden setting:** can handle full sun to dappled shade in a wide range of soil types. This low maintenance cycad is suitable for landscaping around pools and corporate garden settings.

**Pot culture:** a decorative patio specimen, which needs high levels of light to maintain its compact shape. This low maintenance cycad can remain in the same container for years.



### BUTTERFLY CYCAD

*Zamia furfuracea*

Origin: Mexico

A most decorative cycad with arching fronds bearing stiff, oval leaves. The trunk is short, and sometimes subterranean. Growth habit can be single or multi-trunked, reaching 1m in height.

**Garden setting:** can handle poorer soils but prefer mulching after planting to protect the roots from heat and drying out. Grows well in tropical, subtropical and warm temperate regions, and is always best in sunny positions.

**Pot culture:** a hardy patio and indoor specimen, however low light levels may cause the fronds to elongate. Plant in a well-drained mix, and lightly water.

