PLANT FACT SHEET

Washingtonia robusta H. Wendl.

GENUS *Washingtonia* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Desert Fan Palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds, Palm heart, Cabbage

The fruit are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A fan palm. It can be 40 m tall. The trunk is thinner than Washingtonia filifera. It is flared widely at the base. The trunk can be covered with dead leaves. The leaves are large and fan shaped. They are green on both surfaces. There are brown thorns on the leaf stalk. The base of the leaf has a red-brown sheath. Mature palms do not have threads on the leaf blades. The flowering stalk grows from among the leaves and extends beyond them. They are 2-3 m long. Flowers are pink. The fruit are round and black when ripe.

HABITAT

It does best in warm temperate to tropical places. It often grows near the sea in Mexico. It suits arid regions. In Adelaide Botanical Gardens. It suits plant hardiness zones 9-11. Hobart Botanical Gardens. In Portland Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

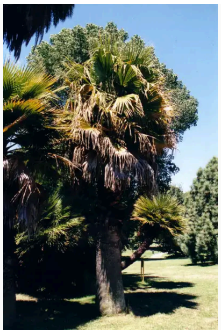
Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. The small seeds grow very easily.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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