PLANT FACT SHEET

Dasylirion leiophyllum Engelm. ex Trel.

GENUS *Dasylirion* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

COMMON NAMES Sotol, Desert candle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Cabbage, Base - drink

The base of the plant is used to make an alcoholic drink called sotol. Caution: Alcohol is a cause of cancer.

DESCRIPTION

A spiky desert plant that keeps growing from year to year. The plant has a crowded cluster of narrow leaves. These are 25-75 cm long and 10-12 mm wide at the base. There are spiny teeth along the edge. These curve backwards. The flowers are on an unbranched flower stalk. This grows 1.6-6.6 m tall. The flowers are in dense clusters on the upper third.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

Also put in the family Nolinaceae and Liliaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/d1176133-7861-4245-889b-8dae5f46fd5f