



Bay Palmetto

Sabal mauritiiformis

Height: 50 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 9b

Other Names: Savannah Palm, syn. *S. allenii*, *S. glaucescens*

Description:

This striking, slender palm makes a perfect vertical landscape accent; drought resistant once established, and prefers slightly alkaline soil; tolerates mild frost only; has a reasonably fast growth rate

Planting & Growing

Bay Palmetto will grow to be about 50 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a high canopy of foliage that sits well above the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.

This tropical plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for sandy, alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America.



Bay Palmetto in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Bay Palmetto fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Barrie Location
4346 Highway 90
Springwater, Ontario
L9X 1T7

Bradford Location
3817 County Road 4
Bradford, Ontario
L3Z 2A5

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Bay Palmetto is a fine choice for the yard, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.