



Giant Fishtail Palm
Caryota obtusa

Height: 60 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Thai Giant Caryota

Description:

This beautiful palm forms a single trunk, topped with huge, evenly spaced, bright green bi-pinnate leaves, creating a stunning lacey pattern; flowers and fruits only once, then dies; provide adequate space, as it grows quite large

Planting & Growing

Giant Fishtail Palm will grow to be about 60 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 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 approximately 30 years.

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 rich, acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This species is not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets..



Giant Fishtail Palm
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Giant Fishtail Palm
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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GARDEN
GALLERY

Barrie Location
4346 Highway 90
Springwater, Ontario
L9X 1T7

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

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Giant Fishtail Palm 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.



*Giant Fishtail Palm bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*