



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Desert Spoon or Sotol

Dasyilirion texanum

DESCRIPTION: This structurally interesting, desert adapted plant is native to Texas and Chihuahua, Mexico. It is a durable, low-maintenance accent plant. Older specimens may eventually reach 6 feet tall but juvenile plants are considerably shorter. Mature plants will flower each or every other summer, with an 8-foot-tall, tan colored spike densely covered with small creamy white flowers which attract a variety of insect pollinators. The shiny green leaves are armed with small curved teeth, so care should be used when locating this plant within a landscape.

RECOMMENDED USE: Sotol can be used as an accent or specimen for its form, or in an enhanced desert landscape or xeriscape. It makes an ideal accent or barrier plant.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: It is extremely cold tolerant. Established plants should easily survive temperatures of -20° F or less.



Sun tolerance: Full sun to light shade.



Watering and feeding: Low to moderate water use, depending on soil and growth rate desired.



Soil requirements: Most soils, although will grow better in deeper soils.



Pruning: None required if properly placed. Note: Allow for the ultimate 6'+ diameter of the plant to avoid the need to prune.