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SPECIES

Wodyetia bifurcata (Family Arecaceae)

COMMON NAME

Foxtail Palm

ORIGIN

Northeastern Queensland

DESIGN USE

Accent specimen, streets and driveways & deck plant



HEIGHT

30 ft (9.1 m)

SPREAD

Crown of foliage 15-20 ft (4.6-6.1 m)

HABIT

Foxtail palm is thornless and has a slender, closely ringed bottle shaped to columnar trunk. The Foxtail Palm is endemic to a very small part of Australia, originally decorating the boulder-strewn, exposed gravel hills of the Cape Melville range, wholly within the Cape Melville National Park

FORM

The pale green arching fronds have leaflets that radiate out at all angles from the leaf stem, thus appearing like a bottlebrush or the tail of a fox.

FLOWERS

White flowers stalk that comes from the base of the crownshaft.

FLOWERING PERIOD

Blooms repeatedly



FRUIT

Fruits are 2 inches long. Olive green to green in the early stages. Orange red when ripe.

BARK/ TRUNK/ LEAVES

Trunks are similar to the king palm, the foxtail palm trunk is smooth, thin, and self-cleaning. It grows a single, double, or triple trunk that is slightly spindle-shaped to columnar reaching heights of about 30 ft. The trunk also has a closely ringed, dark grey to light gray color which slowly turns more and more white. The crownshaft of the foxtail palm is light to bright green and slightly swollen at the base.



CLIMATIC TOLERANCES

Foxtail palm should be protected from frost or freezing temperatures. Mature and established plants can tolerate only a light frost.

HORTICULTURE

Foxtail palms are exceptionally hardy and easy to grow. They tolerate a wide variety of well drained soils, including alkaline limestone soils and rocky sands. This palm responds well to regular, deep watering in well drained soils and grows best in full sun, but it grows well in partial shade, too. Regular fertilization with palm fertilizer results in rapid growth.



REFERENCES

<http://davesgarden.com>

<http://ntbg.org>

<http://www.palmpedia.net>