Slender Lady Palm

Rhapis humilis

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 9

Other Names: Bamboo Palm

Description:

A tall, thin stemmed fan palm presenting many, deeply divided, fan shaped leaves with a dozen or more leaflets; a graceful vertical accent to frame the landscape or garden; keep consistently moist

Ornamental Features

Slender Lady Palm has attractive green evergreen foliage on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The deeply cut lobed palmate leaves are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Slender Lady Palm is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Disease

Slender Lady Palm is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Slender Lady Palm
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Slender Lady Palm foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Slender Lady Palm will grow to be about 20 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub performs well in both full sun and full shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Slender Lady Palm makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Its large size and upright habit of growth lend it for use as a solitary accent, or in a composition surrounded by smaller plants around the base 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.



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Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder