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Botanical name:

*Phoenix canariensis*

Common name:

Canary Island Date Palm (CIDP)

Origin:

In its native range on the Canary Islands (found on all seven islands), *P. canariensis* grows on a wide variety of soils.

Typical height:

10-20 metres

Typical width:

8-9 metres

Growth rate:

Slow

Typical form:

Rounded palm on solitary stem. Trunk typically wider at the base.

Characteristics:

Rounded crown of dark green feather leaves 4-6 m long, with pinnae to 20-40 cm long closely spaced along the rachis. Like all Phoenix, *P. canariensis* has long, extremely sharp spines at the bases of the leaves. The species is dioecious, with separate male and female trees. The fruit are orange, approximately 2 cm long and 1 cm diameter, in clusters.

Site requirements:

CIDP is adapted to more habitats and soils than almost any other palm. It has relative tolerance to cold. It can tolerate a wide range of exposures, including deep shade, and a wide range of soil types, including sand and heavy clay. CIDP has been successfully grown in urban areas where air pollution, poor drainage, compacted soil, and/or drought are common.

Tolerances:

CIDP has a unique ability to tolerate both severe drought and flooding very well, which makes them ideal to plant in urban areas in which the soil was heavily compacted.

High drought tolerance.

Notes:

Can be used in car parks, median strip plantings on main roads; specimen trees, hard surface cut outs (tree pit); residential street tree.

