

Caranday Wax Palm

copernicia alba



Field grown *Copernicia Alba*

The slow growing Caranday, or Wax Palm is an often overlooked member of the *Copernicia* family that can make a high impact both indoors and outdoors. The Wax Palm gets its name from the wax its leaves produce, which is commonly used in the cosmetics and automotive industries.

The Caranday Wax Palm has a tough, cylindrical trunk that retains the spiky bases of old leaves for several years when the palm is young. These tough spines fall off as the palm matures, revealing a smooth bark. The foliage grows directly from the top of the trunk, forming a cascading fountain shape over time.

The Caranday Wax Palm flowers in the fall, with miniscule white flowers. Wich produce round, yellow fruits that blacken as they ripen. These are edible, but are known to have a strong bitter taste after an initial sweetness.

This palm is gaining popularity due to its exceptional cold tolerance, relative ease of maintenance, and resistance to pest and disease. Use it as a standalone focal point or in groupings of 2-3 for a standout specimen.



Copernicia Alba leaves



Copernicia Alba seeds

Caranday Wax Palm

copernicia alba



Copernicia Alba in the landscape

Common Names:

Wax Palm, Caranday Palm, Copernicia

Native Origin:

South America, primarily Brazil, Bolivia, and Argentina

Environment:

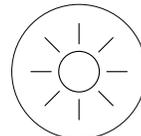
Soil: moist, well drained
Salt: moderate
Exposure: full sun to partial shade

Description:

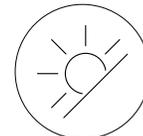
Hardy Range: 9B - 11
Mature Height: 30 - 45'
Mature Spread: 10 - 15'
Growth Rate: slow

Ornamental Characteristics:

Copernicia Alba have a grey-brown trunk that can grow up to 60' high, though most never pass 40'. The foliage is stiff and fan shaped, with silver-green, green, or light silver-blue fronds. They produce inconspicuous white flowers in the fall, which bear small, edible, round, berry-like, juicy fruit in winter.



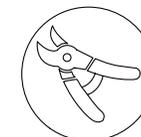
Full Sun



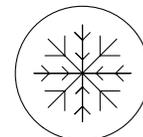
Partial Shade



Florida Native



Low maintenance



Cold tolerant



Urban