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Zamia

Macrozamia riedlei

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 9a

Other Names: Zamia Palm



Zamia

Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Description:

A small cycad with a thick trunk that is mostly underground; long, arching, blue-green leaves are graceful in form and texture; likes hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters; tolerates light frost and coastal conditions

Planting & Growing

Zamia will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 120 years or more; think of this as a heritage tropical plant for future generations! This is a dioecious species, meaning that individual plants are either male or female. Only the females will produce fruit, and a male variety of the same species is required nearby as a pollinator.

This tropical plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.