



The California Invasive Plant Council Student Chapter recommends that you

# DON'T PLANT

## MEXICAN FAN PALM



Photos: Arturo Reina; [www.plantright.org](http://www.plantright.org), [www.palmco.com](http://www.palmco.com)

**Scientific Name:** *Washingtonia robusta*

**Other Common Names:** Washington palm

**Description:**

A single trunked palm tree grows to be 80 feet tall. Dead fronds remain attached to trunk for many years.

**Biology, Habitat, and Spread:**

Fruits are spread by birds. Drought tolerant, fast growing palm that produces many seeds.

**Impact:**

Decreases biodiversity, replace natives in riparian areas, form thick stands that increase fire risk and may harbor pests (rats). Also, decreases wildlife habitat by replacing native trees.

**Native Range:** Mexico

**Invaded Range:**



**Control Methods:**

**Alternatives:**



***Pindo Palm or Jelly Palm***  
***Butia capitata***

Can grow up to 20 feet tall. Grey-green foliage with red flowers and edible fruits. Tolerates frost, heat, aridity, and poor soils.



***King Palm***

***Archontophoenix cunninghamiana***

Can grow up to 50 feet tall, with beautiful clustered amethyst flowers. Recommended for frost free areas.



***Blue Hesper Palm***  
***Brahea armata***

Easy to grow. Can grow to about 20 feet.

Photo: © 2007 Dr. Mark S. Brunell

**References:**

US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: <http://plants.usda.gov>

California Invasive Plant Council: <http://www.cal-ipc.org>

Consortium of California Herbaria: <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu>