



KENNEDY'S

COUNTRY GARDENS



Chestnut Dioon

Dioon edule

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight:  

Hardiness Zone: 9a

Other Names: Virgin Palm, Chestnut Cycad

Description:

A very slow growing cycad with radiating fern like leaves; will develop a trunk over a long period; an attractive accent or container plant that prefers moist, well drained, and fertile soil; hardy and tolerant of light frost

Planting & Growing

Chestnut Dioon will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more. As an evergreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Chestnut Dioon is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants 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 growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.



Chestnut Dioon
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Chestnut Dioon flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder