FAMILY TREE NURSERY

Jelly Palm

Butia capitata



Jelly Palm
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7b

Other Names: Pindo Palm, Wine Palm, Butia odorata,

Description:

This feather palm eventually forms a thick solitary trunk that can reach 20 feet tall; graceful leaves that almost recurve back to the trunk; a very hardy variety that withstands considerable cold for a palm; a great accent or container plant

Ornamental Features

Jelly Palm has attractive grayish green evergreen foliage on a tree with the bulk of the canopy held atop a towering trunk or stem. The recurved narrow pinnately compound leaves are highly ornamental and remain grayish green throughout the winter. It produces orange berries from mid to late summer. The rough bark and gray branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Jelly Palm is an evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a towering form, with a high canopy of foliage concentrated at the top of the plant. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.



Jelly Palm foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Jelly Palm is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Jelly Palm fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Jelly Palm will grow to be about 20 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This tree 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 type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.

Jelly Palm is a fine choice for the yard, 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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