

Why is it so important to plant native species?

Florida is the state with the largest number of native plants that can be planted into the home landscape. Native plants are practical and attractive. Native plants are adapted to our climate and soil and have fewer pest problems. Natives when planted into landscape areas similar to where they naturally grow can get established without large inputs of water and fertilizer. Some nurseries stock native plants. Get a list of Native Plant Nurseries by calling the Master Gardener Volunteer Hotline at 233-1750 M-F 9am-4pm

Native palms recommended for South Florida include Paroutis, Saw Palmetto, Thrinax, Silver Palm and Needle palm.

Scientific Name Common Names	Leaf Type	Typical Height	Stem Thickness	Growth Habit	Growth Rate	Salt Tolerance	Native	Irritating Fruits
<i>Acoelorrhaphes wrightii</i> <i>Paurotis palm,</i> <i>Everglades palm</i>	Fan	20 ft	Slender	Clumping	Moderate	Moderate	Yes	No
<i>Serenoa repens</i> <i>Saw palmetto</i>	Fan	6 ft	Slender	Clumping	Slow	High	Yes	No
<i>Thrinax spp</i> <i>Thatch palms</i>	Fan	20 ft	Slender	Single-stem	Slow	High	Yes	No
<i>Rhapidophyllum hystrix</i> <i>Needle palm</i>	Fan	5 ft	Very Slender	Clumping	Slow	Moderate	Yes	No
<i>Coccothrinax spp</i> <i>Silver palms</i>	Fan	15-25 ft	Slender	Single-stem	Slow	High	Yes/no	No



