

The Pony Tail Palm

This plant will grow to the size of the pot and stay small indoors or in shade. DO not over water this plant, but when you do water do it thoroughly. In a pot with no drain hole tip over so the plant does not sit in water in case you over water. Let the soil dry down before you water again. If your looking to let this plant grow larger than bump it up into a larger pot and give it more light. In more light this plant will crack the pot to get out and grow into a small tree. Avoid frost at all cost. Read on for more information.

Beaucarnea recurvata

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Beaucarnea recurvata

Scientific classification

Kingdom: Plantae

(unranked): Angiosperms

(unranked): Monocots

Order: Asparagales

Family: Ruscaceae

Genus: *Beaucarnea*

Species: *B. recurvata*

Binomial name

Beaucarnea recurvata

Lem.

Synonyms

Nolina recurvata

Beaucarnea recurvata (often called the ponytail palm in English, even though it is not a true palm) is a species of *Beaucarnea* often grown as a houseplant in temperate latitudes.

Successful cultivation requires winter minimum temperatures of above 10°C, rising to around 30°C in summer. The ponytail palm is native to the states of Tamaulipas, Veracruz, and San Luis Potosí in Mexico.[1]

Beaucarnea recurvata needs full sun to light shade, with a well drained soil mix. A soil mix consisting of 2 parts loam to 1 part peat moss to 2 parts sand has been used successfully. To this mix, small gravel may be added to ensure good drainage. In a container, plants are very slow growing and very drought tolerant. Plants can be watered every three weeks during the growing season and fertilized once during this period. During the winter months, the plants should be watered only enough to keep the foliage from wilting (this usually equates to 1 dose of water during the winter). Over-watering is the single most frequent cause of failure when growing *Beaucarnea*. The ponytail palm is a very slow growing tree. If you break off one of the branch "crowns", new growth will appear in about a month.

[edit]References

^ Irish, Gary (2000). *Agaves, Yuccas, and Related Plants: A Gardener's Guide*. Timber Press. p. 187. ISBN 9780881924428.

