



Sago Palm *Cycas Revoluta*

06-04



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 8-24, H1, H2	Partial shade	2/3 sand 1/3 soil or compost	Regular watering	Dioecious, not a flowering plant, reproductive clusters around frond base	Grows slowly to 10 feet

Cycas revoluta, one of the most primitive living seed plants, are very unusual and popular ornamentals. A rugged trunk, topped with whorled feathery leaves has lead to the common name "Sago Palm", however it is actually related to conifer and Ginko trees - all cone bearing plants which trace their origins back to the ancient flora of the early Mesozoic era. Often called "living fossils", Cycads have changed very little in the last 200 million years. *Cycas revoluta* displayed at the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. near the dinosaur exhibit.

While various species of Cycads can be found throughout the world, the subtropical *C. revoluta* is native to the Far East and has been used as a choice container and landscape plant for centuries. The growth habit of *Cycas revoluta* displays an upright trunk with a diameter from 1" to 12" depending on age, topped with stiff feather-like leaves growing in a circular pattern. Rather than continuously adding foliage, Sagos produce a periodic "flush" of new leaves, called a "break". Eventually, offsets begin to grow at the base of the specimen, and occasionally in the crown. The addition of offsets provides a source of new plants and many possibilities for developing an unique specimen.

**** Seeds are poisonous if ingested**