



## Dwarf Palmetto

*Sabal minor*

06-08



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 12-17, 19-24, H1, H2	Full sun, some shade	Prefers moist sandy soil but can tolerate drought	Moderate watering	Large clusters of tiny flowers among the leaves	3-6 feet tall

*Blue-stem is a small fan palm with a trunk that remains below ground. Depending on age and growing conditions, the leaves can be anywhere from 1-5 ft (0.3-1.5 m) in length and width. The smooth petiole (leaf stem) is a little longer than the leaf. The inflorescence (cluster of flowers) is erect, extending well above the leaves. The fruits are black, about 1/2 in (1.3 cm) in diameter and their weight causes the flowering stalk to arch downward, sometimes to the ground. Also called dwarf or bush palmetto, the leaves of blue-stem differ from those of the similar-looking saw palmetto [Serenoa repens](#) in having a short midrib, an extension of the petiole and a smooth stem while the saw palmetto's is armed with small sharp spines that form the sawlike edges that give the plant its name.*

*Blue palm grows naturally in moist forests, ravines and bottomlands from North Carolina to east Texas.*