



Tasmanian Tree Fern *Dicksonia antarctica*

01-08



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 8, 9, 14-17, 19-24, H1	Full sun in cooler climates only	Humus-rich, neutral to acid	Regular watering	Spores	Slow to 15 feet

With a thick mass of roots forming a trunk, up to 3m (10ft) long, mid- to dark green fronds. These impressive tree ferns are one of the oldest plants in the world and their fascinating appearance will soon catch the heart of any gardener. They add drama and style to a semi-shady spot, and will happily grow in any soil as long as the trunk is kept moist. In the wild *Dicksonia Antarctica* is tolerant of fire and re-shoots readily afterwards. The fern grows at a rate of about 3.5 to 5 centimeters per year and produces spores at the age of about 23 years. It grows in a range of soils but does best on fertile areas. It is particularly suited to garden planting and landscaping purposes and is one of the most popular tree ferns in the world.

Propagation - Spores can be sown at any time in a warm greenhouse. Surface sow and enclose the pot in a plastic bag in order to keep it moist. Place in light shade. Germinates in 1 - 3 months at 20°C. Prick out small clumps of plants when they are large enough to handle and grow on in a shaded part of the greenhouse for at least the first 2 years. The spores can be stored dry for up to 10 years.