

Phoenix sylvestris

Botanical Name: *Phoenix sylvestris*

Common Name: Silver Date Palm, Sugar Date Palm, Wild Date Palm

Morphological Characters:

Phoenix sylvestris ranges from 4 to 15 m in height and 40 cm in diameter. The leaves are 3 m long, gently recurved, on 1 m petioles with acanthophylls near the base. The leaf crown grows to 10 m wide and 7.5 to 10 m tall containing up to 100 leaves. The inflorescence grows to 1 metre with white, unisexual flowers forming to a large, pendent infructescence. The single-seeded fruit ripens to a purple-red colour.



Growing Season and Type:

1. *Phoenix sylvestris* is a fast growing palm that can get up to 50-60 ft tall and 10-15 ft wide.
2. The flowering season of this plant is observed to be from the first to the third week of August. The fruits take almost one year for attaining maturity.
3. The ripening starts from the first week of June and continues till the middle of July.
4. *Phoenix sylvestris* is a cold hardy palm that can tolerate cold down to 15F.
5. Water requirement is moderate. The Sylvester Date Palm can withstand a drought for a short period of time. Grows best in moist but well drained soil.



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1) Closeup of the flower spathe of *Phoenix sylvestris*

2) Leaf image of *Phoenix sylvestris*

3) Tree image of *Phoenix sylvestris*

source: <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/showimage/378723/#b>

<http://indiabiodiversity.org/species/show/230731/?max=8&offset=0&classification=265799&taxon=43846&view=grid>