



Saw Palmetto *(Serenoa repens)*

Instant ID

- A low-growing palm that looks like a shrub
- Has fronds (leaves) up to 3 feet across
- Found in thickets with trunks just under or barely breaking the surface
- Seasonally, has clusters of small orange and black berry-like fruits
- Sharp saw tooth-like projections run along a frond's stem

Native Niches

- Found in forests with open canopies where sunlight reaches the forest floor
- Upland pine forests, sandhills, flatwoods, prairies, maritime forests and dunes



Saw Palmetto *(Serenoa repens)*

Plant Particulars

- Has the smallest fronds of Florida's native palms
- Provides shelter for rodents, lizards, snakes and other small animals
- Its fruit is eaten by black bear and white-tailed deer
- American Indians used fibers to make rope and nets

Population Protection

- Provides ideal habitat and food source for many threatened species
- Oils in this plant help naturally spread fire in prescribed burns
- Saw palmetto makes an excellent choice for xeriscaping (landscaping with little or no additional water requirements)