

In the South, Sago Palms (also commonly sold under the names of Coontie Palm, Cardboard Palm, Cycad or Zamia) grow throughout Florida, most of Louisiana and in the southern reaches of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. In the West their growing area includes much of Texas, Arizona and California.

Outside of the U.S. they are found in the New World tropics, Southern Africa, South and East Asia, Australia and the South Pacific. In Australia, loss of cattle afflicted with the "zamia staggers" led to government cycad-eradication campaigns. This family of palm plants are not only found in outdoor landscapes, but as ornamental houseplants as well.



Sago Palm - female plant

While most toxic plants warn potential predators away with a foul odor or bitter taste, the Sago Palm is a wolf in sheep's clothing. Because Sagos do not have these typical distractors, animals do not instinctively know not to eat or chew on the plants or the seed pods.

Our thanks to the following...



Sarasota, Florida
www.sveh.net
(941) 923-7260

and



Animal Poison Control Center
aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control
(888) 426-4435

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ADAMASdobermans.com
for...*

*Nancy Sodel
KaliberDobes.com
in memory of "Cole"*

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Sago Palms and Other Toxic Palms



Sago Palm - male plant

*In Loving Memory of
CH Kaliber's Unforgettable CD
- lost to Sago Palm toxicity -*



"Cole"



Cardboard Palm

Sagos contain multiple toxins, with the most potent being Cycasin. Even with aggressive treatment, the survival rate for Cycasin toxicity in animals is only about 50%. In humans, Cycasin not only causes liver failure, but is a neurotoxin as well. Therefore it is important to not only keep pets away from Sagos and other toxic palms, but to keep young children away from them as well.



Coontie Palm



King Sago at UC Berkeley Campus



Sago Palm seed pods



Ornamental Cardboard Palm



Cycad Palm

WARNING!
Due to the toxic components in these palms, it is important to wash your hands thoroughly after handling any part of the plant, as well as to wash your clothing and any gardening tools that came into contact with the plants.



Ornamental Sago Palm