



Foxtail palm



Plant Botanical Name:

Wodyetia bifurcata

USBG Plant Location:

Conservatory

Conservatory Room Location:

Jungle

Plant Threat Level:

Threatened

The Foxtail palm was largely unknown until 1978, when an Aboriginal man named Wodyeti shared his knowledge of its existence. Found only in a remote area of Queensland in northeastern Australia, the enormous demand for this newly described genus fueled illegal collection of wild plants and seeds, nearly decimating its few populations. Legal propagation eventually cooled demand for the wild-collected plants, and today, *Wodyetia bifurcata* is one of the world's most popular landscape palms. The entire native population is protected within the Cape Melville National Park, where it appears to be successfully regenerating. However, the species is listed in the Nature Conservation Act (Queensland) and is still listed on the IUCN Red List.

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