

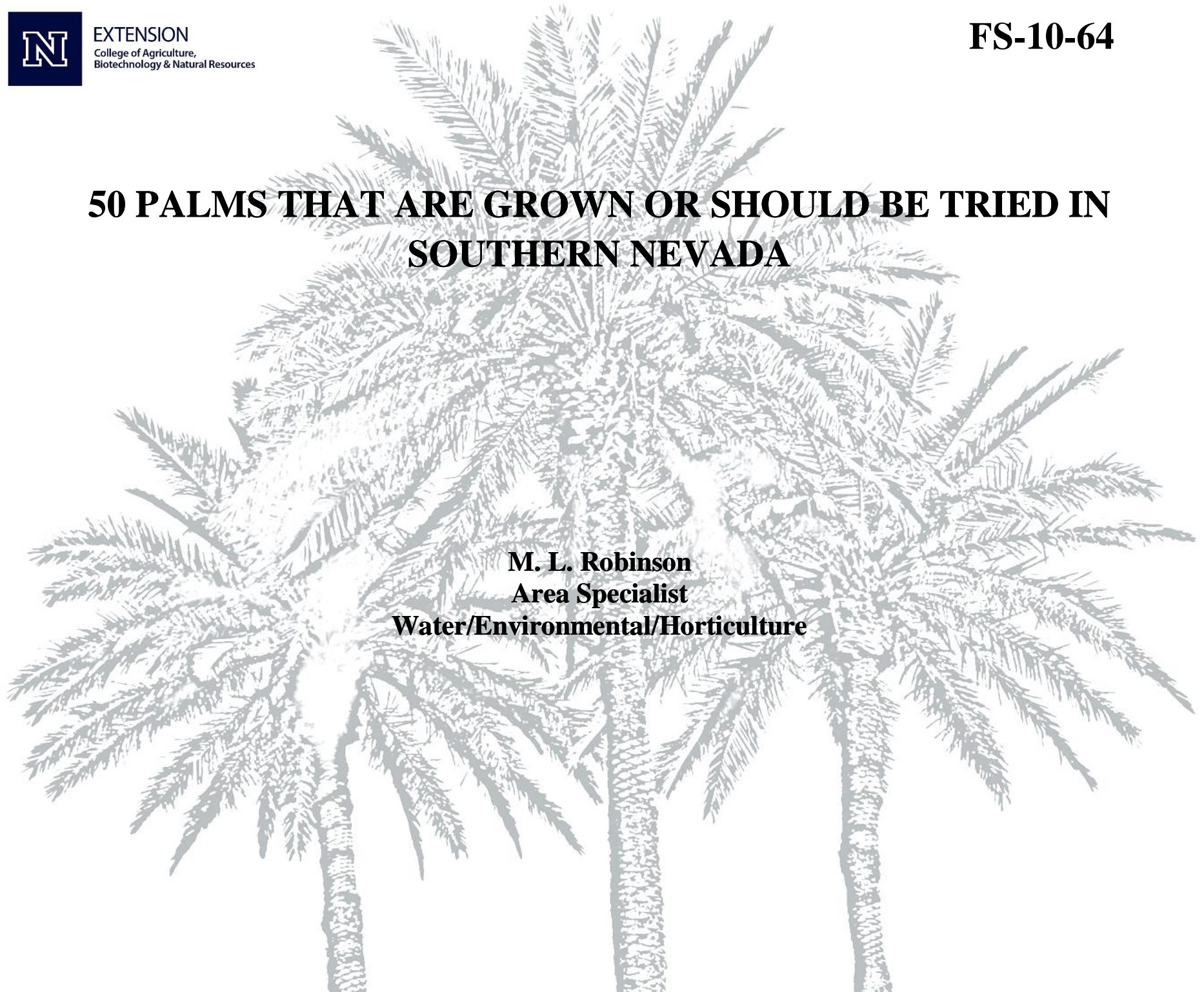


EXTENSION
College of Agriculture,
Biotechnology & Natural Resources

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50 PALMS THAT ARE GROWN OR SHOULD BE TRIED IN SOUTHERN NEVADA

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50 PALMS THAT ARE GROWN OR SHOULD BE TRIED IN SOUTHERN NEVADA

Palms That Grow Best in Southern Nevada and the Southwest

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Recommended for Commercial and Other Large Areas	Recommended for Homes and Small Areas	Comments	Low water* (LW) Medium Water(MW)** High Water (HW) ***	Sun (Su) Shade (Sh) Afternoon Shade (ASH)	Easy to Find (EF) Sometimes Available (SA) Rare (R)
1	Brahea armata	Blue Mexican Palm	X	X	Most common Brahea Very good for small yards Medium growth rate	LW - MW Will take some drought	Su – ASH	EF
2	Brahea aculeata	Aculeata Fan Palm	X	X	Does well in SN	LW - MW Will take some drought	Su – ASH	SA - R
3	Brahea dulcus (bella)	Sweet Brahea	X	X	Does well in SN	LW - MW Will take some drought	ASH	R Can Mail Order
4	Brahea brandegeei	San Jose Hesper Palm	X	X	Does well in SN will freeze in mid to low 20's	LW - MW Will take some drought	ASH	R Can Mail Order
5	Brahea decumbens	Clumping Blue Brahea	X	X	Give room to spread Clumps Should be used more	LW - MW Will take some drought	Su – ASH	Very R
6	Brahea edulis		X	X	Should be used more	LW - MW Will take some drought		SA

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7	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Mediterranean Fan palm	X	X	One of the best smaller palms for SN Great as a palm hedge	LW – MW	Su – Sh	EF
8	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i> var. <i>argentea</i> (cerifera)	Blue Mediterranean Fan palm	X	X	One of the best smaller palms for SN Nice blue or silver color Great palm hedge	LW – MW	Su – Sh	SA
9	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i> <i>volcano</i>	Dwarf Mediterranean Fan Palm	X	X	Smaller growing	LW – MD	Sh – ASH	Very – R From Europe
10	<i>Jubaea chilensis</i>	Chilean Wine Palm	X		One of the largest and longest lived palms in the world Will live 100 – 200 years	LW – MW	Su – Sh	R
11	<i>Livistona chinensis</i>	Chinese Fan Palm	X	X	Well armed as juvenile	LW – MW	Sh – ASH	EF
12	<i>Livistona de-cora</i> (<i>decipiens</i>)		X	X	Well armed	LW – MW	Sh – ASH	SA - R
13	<i>Livistona saribus</i>		X	X	Well armed	LW – MW	Sh – ASH	SA - R

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14	Nannorrhops ritchiana	Mazari Palm	X	X	One of the most cold hardy palms (5°F or Lower) From desert areas Great for SN 3 or 4 forms Silver to green leaves A true desert palm	LW – MW	Su – ASH	SA – R Grows well from seed
15	Nannorrhops ritchiana, var. Iranian Silver	Mazari Palm Iranian Silver	X	X	Same as above	LW – MW	Su – ASH	Same as Above
16	Nannorrhops ritchiana var. Kashmir	Mazari Palm Kashmir	X	X	Same as above	LW – MW	Su – ASH	Same as Above
17	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Island Date Palm	X		Too big for most yards - Well armed	LW – MW	Su	EF
18	Phoenix dactylifera	Date Palm	X		Too tall for most yards - Well armed	LW – MW	Su	EF
19	Sabal mexicana	Rio Grande Palmetto	X	X	Can be large	MW-HW	Su-ASH	R
20	Sabal minor	Trunkless or Dwarf Sabal	X	X	Very small trunkless palm Can be used next to building foundations	MW-HW	Su – ASH	SA - R

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21	Sabal "Riverside"	Riverside Sabal	X	X	Fastest growing Sabal	MW – HW	Ash – Sh	SA - R
22	Trachycarpus fortunei	Windmill palm	X	X	Protect from wind Very common in SN	Med – MW	Sun - ASH	EF
23	Washingtonia filifera	California Fan Palm	X		Great desert palm Large trunk Too large for most home landscapes May be the only palm native to SN	Med – MW	Sun	SA
24	Washingtonia robusta	Mexican Fan Palm	X		Great desert palm Too tall for home landscapes Plant near tall buildings like casinos and parking garages	Med – MW	Sun	EF Inexpensive

50 PALMS THAT ARE GROWN OR SHOULD BE TRIED IN SOUTHERN NEVADA

Palms That Should Be Tried in Southern Nevada and the Southwest

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1	Acoelorrhaphe wrightii	Everglades Palm, Paurotis Palm	X	X	Will take over-watering (wet areas)	MW	Sh - ASH	SA
2	Arenga engleri	Sugar Palm	X	X	Will freeze at 10-15 F	MW	Sh - ASH	SA
3	Bismarckia nobilis	Bismarck Palm	X		Large palm Sheltered areas only Will freeze in mid to upper 20's	MW	Su, Best ASH	EF - SA
4	Brahea calcarea (nitida)		X	X	Should be tried in SN	LW – MW Will take some drought	Su – ASH	R
5	Chamaedorea radicalis	Bamboo palm	X	X	Great for small moist shade gardens Cold hardy	MW Mulch	Sh	SA
6	Chamaedorea microspadix	Bamboo palm	X	X	Same as above	MW Mulch	Sh	SA
7	Copernicia alba		X	X	Small fan palm	MW	Sh - ASH	SA - R
8	Livistona australis	Taraw Palm Fountain Palm	X	X	Cold hardy	LW – MW	Su – ASH	SA - R
9	Livistona mariae	Red fan palm	X	X	New growth is reddish as juvenile	LW – MW	Sh – ASH	SA - R

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10	<i>Livistona nitida</i>		X	X	Livistonas are from dry areas and should be tried in SN	LW – MW	Su – ASH	SA - R
11	<i>Phoenix rupicola</i>	Cliff Date Palm	X	X	This is a midsize date palm More cold hardy than the pygmy date and smaller than canariensis - Well armed	LW - MW	Su –ASH	R
12	<i>Phoenix sylvestris</i>	Wild Date Palm	X	X	Same as above Well armed	LW - MW	Su-ASH	R
13	<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	Greek or Createn Date Palm	X	X	Every part is armed Plant away from pedestrian traffic	MW – HW	Su – ASH	SA - R
14	<i>Rhapidophyllum hystri</i>	Needle Palm	X	X	One of the most cold hardy palms Does well in shaded moist areas	MW – HW	Sh – ASH	SA - R
15	<i>Rhapis excelsa</i>	Lady palm	X	X	Cold hardy Good for moist shade gardens Plant in wind protected areas	MW – HW	Sh only	EF
16	<i>Sabal causiarum</i>		X		Very large Sabal	MW - HW	Su-ASH	R

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17	<i>Serenoa repens</i>	Saw Palmetto green	X	X	Small clumping palm	LW – MW	ASH – Sh	SA - R
18	<i>Serenoa repens</i> , blue or silver form	Blue or Silver Saw Palmetto	X	X	Small clumping palm	LW – MW	ASH – Sh	SA - R
19	<i>Trachycarpus martianus</i>		X	X	Protect from wind	LW – MW	Sh - ASH	R
20	<i>Trachycarpus nanus</i>	Dwarf Windmill Palm	X	X	Protect from wind	LW – MW	Sh - ASH	R
21	<i>Trachycarpus takil</i>	Takil Windmill Palm	X	X	Protect from wind	LW – MW	Sh - ASH	R
22	<i>Trachycarpus wagnerianus</i>		X	X	Protect from wind	LW – MW	Sh - ASH	R
23	<i>Trithrinax campestris</i>			X	Protect from wind Plant under desert trees	LW – MW	Sh – ASH	R

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Palms That Should Not be Grown in Southern Nevada and the Southwest

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Recommended for Commercial and Other Large Areas	Recommended for Homes and Small Areas	Comments	Low water* (LW) Medium Water(MW)** High Water (HW) ***	Sun (Su) Shade (Sh) Afternoon Shade (ASH)	Easy to Find (EF) Sometimes Available (SA) Rare (R)
1	Butia capitata	Pinto Palm, Jelly Palm			Does not do well in alkaline soils Poor choice for SN Most look poorly Mulching generously with organic matter may help	MW Will take some drought	Su – ASH	EF
2	Phoenix roebelenii	Pygmy Date Palm			Should only be grown in containers or protected areas Not a desert palm – Well Armed	MW – HW	Sh to ASH	EF
3	Syagrus romanzoffiana	Queen Palm			Does not do well in hot dry climates and alkaline soils A very poor selection for SN	Med – MW	Sun - ASH	EF

* Low water (LW) will survive periods of no irrigation (weeks to months).

** Medium water (MW) irrigate (deep water) once a week in the summer and in the winter once every two to four weeks.

*** High water (HW) grows well in turf irrigated areas.

**** Well Armed - always use leather gloves, long sleeve shirt and eye protection when pruning and working around these palms.

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Rare palms and those found only on occasion in local nurseries can be mail ordered from palm specialty nurseries and seed supply companies. Seeds can be obtained from mail order companies specializing in Palm and Cycad seeds.

If you are in doubt about how much sun a palm will tolerate, plant it in afternoon shade. Western afternoon sun can be most harmful. Plants in shaded areas need less water. It is best to mulch all palms with organic products such as commercial bark, compost, recycled yard waste and other organics. Unlike rock, these mulches build up the soil, provide habitat for microorganisms and add needed nutrients in forms that the palms can readily utilize. Mulched soils lose less water, which means more for the palms.

The information given here is from the author's observation of palms growing in the desert southwest, botanical gardens and other landscapes, including the UNCE demonstration garden in Las Vegas. The author suggests the following books and websites for more information on these palms. The information given in this publication only provides suggestions of palms that may do well in the southern Nevada area. Success will depend on many factors.

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