

## CYCADACEAE – CYCAD FAMILY

**Plant:** small shrub to small tree, palm-like

**Stem:** growth rings often indistinct

**Root:**

**Leaves:** evergreen, pinnate, leaflets with a strong midrib, basal leaves often reduced to spines

**Flowers:** Dioecious; ovules in leaf-like sporophylls (not cones) in a terminal rosette; pollen from sacs on cone-like strobili

**Fruit:** large, fleshy seeds

**Other:** mostly tropical, a few temperate, a living fossil

**Genera:** 1 genus (Cycas), 100+ species, an old world species

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**Sago Palm [Cycad]; *Cycas revoluta* Thunb. (Introduced)**

# Sago Palm [Cycad]

*Cycas revoluta* Thunb. (Introduced)

Cycadaceae (Cycad Family)

Sandestin, Walton County, Florida

Notes: shrub to small tree, fern-like, dioecious; leaves glossy, pinnately compound, margins usually rolled under, axis long, from crown of stem, basal leaves tend to be spiny-like, petioles somewhat barbed; female does not have cones but rather megasporophylls with seeds on their lower margins, male plants have pollen cones, trunk very low when young but can reach heights of 6 to 7 m in old age; widely cultivated, endemic to the old world

[V Max Brown, 2015]

