

## ARECACEAE – PALM FAMILY

**Plant:** woody vines, shrubs and trees

**Stem:** branched or unbranched, woody

**Root:**

**Leaves:** 1 or 2 compound (fan-shaped or palmate) or feather shaped (pinnate) with a conspicuous stalk (petiole), sheathed at base (usually split at maturity), base of stalk often remains on trunk or stem

**Flowers:** perfect and/or imperfect (monoecious or dioecious), regular (actinomorphic); flowers small and whitish; 2-4 sepals, petals and few to many stamens; ovary superior, 1-3 pistils, 3 styles

**Fruit:** berry or leathery-like berry or drupe, any size with one large seed

**Other:** very large family, mostly in tropics to subtropics; Monocotyledons Group

**Genera:** 200+ genera; locally *Sabal* (palmetto)

## ARECACEAE – PALM FAMILY

South American Jelly [Pindo] Palm; *Butia capitata* (Mart.) Becc. (Introduced)  
Cabbage Palmetto; *Sabal palmetto* (Walt.) Lodd. ex J.A. & J.H. Schultes  
Dwarf Palmetto [Bush Palmetto, Blue-Stem]; *Sabal minor* (Jacq.) Pers.  
Saw Palmetto; *Serenoa repens* (Bartram) Small

# South American Jelly

## [Pindo] Palm

*Butia capitata* (Mart.) Becc. (Introduced)

Arecaceae (Palm Family)

Near Destin, Okaloosa County, Florida

Notes: shrub or small tree (to 6-8m); flowers mostly white in clusters; a feather-leaved palm tree, mostly blue-grey in color, fronds recurve (bend) back toward the trunk strongly, leaf segments trough-shaped, has curved spines along the petiole; trunk usually stout and often totally covered with leaf bases; fruit to 3-4 cm in diameter, orange to yellow in color; mostly cultivated but can escape; spring

[V Max Brown, 2016]



# Cabbage Palmetto

*Sabal palmetto* (Walt.) Lodd.

ex J.A. & J.H. Schultes

Arecaceae (Palm Family)

Fort Pulaski National Monument, Georgia

Notes: shrub or tree; flowers yellowish-white; a fan-leaved palm tree, leaf stalks continue into frond, at trunk end the leafstalk base is forked, loose fibers common on leaves, without spines on leaf stalk; fruit 0.5 in; state tree of Florida

[V Max Brown, 2006]



# Dwarf Palmetto

## [Bush Palmetto, Blue-Stem]



*Sabal minor* (Jacq.) Pers.

Arecaceae (Palm Family)

Lower Suwannee National Wildlife  
Refuge, Levy County, Florida

Notes: shrub; flowers white, small in  
clusters; a fan-leaved palm, leaves green,  
without marginal fibers, leaf stalks  
(petioles) smooth, arising from rootstalk  
(often stem-less unless growing in  
water); fruit black (drupe); spring to fall

[V Max Brown, 2012]



# Saw Palmetto

*Serenoa repens* (Bartram) Small

Arecaceae (Palm Family)

Cedar Key, Levy County, Florida

Notes: shrub; flowers greenish white in spiked clusters; a fan-leaved palm, yellowish green to green, leaf stalks (petioles) do not continue into frond, spines curved; fruit yellowish turning black (drupe of 10-15 mm); usually in sandy ground; trunk often partially buried in the sand; spring

[V Max Brown, 2011]

