

Phoenix canariensis

*Paltnae*

Canary Islands

Ar: *Nakhala*

Eng: *Canary palm*

Tg: *Siye*

Tr: *Temer*

**Ecology:** A thicket palm widely planted and popular as an ornamental in the tropics and sub-tropics, commonly in the Mediterranean and hardy enough to grow at higher altitudes, e.g. Asmara.

**Uses:** **Ornamental**, shade, avenue tree.

**Description:** A handsome feathery palm 8-15 m with very many **arching leaf fronds** making a terminal crown. **BARK:** The stout rough trunk is covered with a regular pattern of **large diamond-shaped scars** from old leaf stalks which arise close together. **LEAVES:** Very large and spreading, each 5-6 m, the **leaflets very many and regular, shiny dark green, narrow, stiff and pointed, very strongly keeled**, lowest leaflets reduced to yellow spines. **FLOWERS:** Male or female trees. **FRUIT:** On female trees, **small yellow fruit are olive-sized** and grow in large clusters; **not edible** as the flesh is coarse, dry and fibrous.

**Propagation:** Suckers, seedlings.

**Seed:**

**treatment:**

**storage:**

**Management:** Pruning.

**Remarks:** The very characteristic ornamental avenue palm in Asmara. It is closely related to the date palm but with a shorter trunk and a more dense leafy crown.

