

# *Livistonia chinensis*

**Common name:** Chinese Fan Palm, Fountain Palm

**Family:** Arecaceae

**Habit:** Tree

**Location:** Veer Astha Bhawan Lawn, Botanical Garden

**Distribution:** It is a species of subtropical palm tree of east Asia. It is native to southern Japan, Taiwan, and several islands in the South China Sea.

## **Description:**

Chinese Fan Palm is a very popular palm grown in parks and gardens. It is able to reach 50 feet in height but usually seen at 30 feet with a 10 to 12-foot spread, Chinese Fan Palm has a single straight trunk and large, six-foot-long leaves which have drooping tips. The divided leaves have long, tapering, ribbon-like segments which gracefully sway beneath the leaves, creating an overall fountain-like effect. The long leaf-stalks may be armed with sharp spines. The inconspicuous flowers are hidden among the leaves and are followed by small, blue-black, olive-like fruits. Young specimens of this fan palm are as attractive as the mature plants.

## **Uses:**

The Chinese fan palm has long been used as a container palm, its neat leaf habit and interesting form make it ideal for additional landscape use, such as staggered groupings or as a freestanding specimen or street tree. Chinese fan palm fruits have been used in traditional medicine as an anticancer agent. The seeds and fruits have specific compounds, called phenolic compounds, which have antibacterial properties.

