Desert Spoon or Sotol

*Dasylirion wheeleri*

**DESCRIPTION:** Sotol is a structurally interesting desert adapted plant. The fiercely-toothed, evergreen leaves blue-green in color. It grows at a slow to moderate rate, forming a trunk up to 6’ tall. Plants are either male or female, sending up a 6’ to 8’ tall stalk of white flowers which attract a variety of insect pollinators. This species can be found growing from grasslands up into the Madrean pine/oak forests of the mountains of our region.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** Sotol can be used as an accent or specimen for its form, or in an enhanced desert landscape or xeriscape.

**CULTURE:**

- **Hardiness:** Fully hardy in Tucson; at least down to 5°F.
- **Sun tolerance:** Full sun to light shade.
- **Watering and feeding:** Low to moderate water use, depending on soil and growth rate desired.
- **Soil requirements:** Most soils, although will grow better in deeper soils.
- **Pruning:** None required if properly placed. Note: Allow for the ultimate 6’+ diameter of the plant to avoid the need to prune.