



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Parry Agave

*Agave parryi* var. *truncata*

**DESCRIPTION.** Without a doubt this is among the most beautiful agaves in cultivation. It is similar to the Huachuca Agave, but the blue-green leaves with their dark marginal teeth are even more numerous and broader, forming a tight rosette reminiscent of a giant artichoke. Each rosette is up to three feet across. They pup freely and form large colonies in age. This variety rarely flowers, which is just as well because flowering rosettes then die. Native to the mountains of Durango and Zacatecas, Mexico. A spectacular clone, 'Huntington', has very broad, gray-green leaves with long purple spines. The original plant material was given by Howard Scott Gentry (famed local botanist) to the Huntington Gardens in California.

**RECOMMENDED USE.** Useful as a landscape accent. It grows faster in the ground, but also looks good in a large container.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** Down to 18°F. May be left unprotected in the Tucson area in most winters.



**Sun tolerance:** Light afternoon shade is recommended for best appearance, but will tolerate full sun.



**Watering and feeding:** Moderate; in desert climates irrigate agaves during the spring and fall when growth is most active. Fertilize once or twice a year during the early spring and late summer for faster growth.



**Soil requirements:** Well-drained.



**Pruning:** None necessary. Be sure to consider the ultimate width when planting to avoid committing disfiguring pruning for safety reasons.