Texas Sabal
*Sabal mexicana*

Texas Sabal is the one palm native to the Rio Grande Valley. Twenty years ago, the last large native stand was in Brownsville but they are making a come-back. Large specimens can be seen in many of the brushlines and native brush in the Rio Grande Valley and north into the King Ranch.

It looks similar to Florida’s cabbage palm but with a stockier trunk. The leaf margins (or boots) tend to remain on the trunk for many years giving it a cross-hatch design.

At harvest, all but the youngest set of fronds are removed. Sabals only put out one or two sets of fronds in a growing season so it does take some time for this palm to attain a lush look after being transplanted. Parrots and orioles often choose and untrimmed sabal to nest in.

Sabals are great street or parking-lot trees.

Texas sabals are cold hardy through the Dallas-Fort Worth area, reported to survive sub-zero temperatures.

**Other Common Names:**
Texas Palmetto, Palma de Sombrero, Palma de Micharo, Soyate