



SEED OF THE MONTH: Agave Pup

Common Name: Agave

The Agave pup you will receive this month was donated to the garden by a member of the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden and the bloom will be a surprise for all of us. It could be any one of the flowers shown in the photos below. We do know it is a middle sized Agave plant. (The photo to the left is of a middle sized agave plant located in our garden).



Height: 3 feet
Spacing: 4-5 feet apart
Sun Exposure: Full to morning shade

Bloom Color: From bright yellow and fanned out to off-white and bunched up, the flowering spike can grow up to 30 feet tall. The flowers are spectacular and last a long time. The six-petaled flowers hold some of the sweetest nectar which is enjoyed by garden friends like bees, birds, butterflies and hawk moths.

Bloom Time: The plant will bloom **once** in its lifetime. The flowers will eventually turn into small plants themselves while still attached to the stalk, these are called pups.

Other Details: In a landscape, the leather like leaves, gives this plant a commanding presence in any garden or patio deck. The Agave is often mistaken as a cactus when it really is a succulent. The agave looks great in container when planted with companion succulents.

Soil Requirements: Well drained.

Water Requirements: Newly planted agave should be watered every two days, while a more mature agave can be watered every other week and during the summer once a week. Although the Agave can go months without water, they do benefit from a regular watering schedule.

Propagation Methods:

Each pup is a new baby agave plant waiting to be planted in the ground or a special, large, decorative container. When planting in containers remember to use a cactus/succulent mix.

Known Uses:

Besides adding a dramatic look to your landscape agave is used to make rope, liquors sweetener and bio-fuel.