



**Carnarvon Gorge Macrozamia**  
*Macrozamia moorei*

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Moore's Cycad

**Description:**

A large, palm-like cycad featuring long, arching blue-green leaves that are graceful in form and texture, rising up on a thick trunk; highly adaptable, cold and drought tolerant; an impressive landscape accent

**Ornamental Features**

Carnarvon Gorge Macrozamia is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its ornamental globe-shaped form. It has attractive bluish-green evergreen foliage. The large glossy narrow pinnately compound leaves are highly ornamental and remain bluish-green throughout the winter. The white fruits which fade to tan over time are held in cones from early spring to early summer.

**Landscape Attributes**

Carnarvon Gorge Macrozamia is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spiny

Carnarvon Gorge Macrozamia is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Carnarvon Gorge Macrozamia*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Carnarvon Gorge Macrozamia flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Accent
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use

### **Planting & Growing**

Carnarvon Gorge Macrozamia will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 120 years or more; think of this as a heritage shrub for future generations! This is a dioecious species, meaning that individual plants are either male or female. Only the females will produce fruit, and a male variety of the same species is required nearby as a pollinator.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.