



AGAVE SCHIDIGERA DURANGO DELIGHT™

OUTSTANDING FEATURES: *Durango Delight*™ (Trademark name by Starr Nursery) is a very symmetrical plant with straight leaves. Some populations of *Agave schidigera* have slightly curved leaves that detract from the symmetry. The small size, very decorative leaves and toothless nature combine to make this a very desirable plant for landscaping around houses and small patio areas.

DESCRIPTION: *Agave schidigera Durango Delight*™ is a small to medium sized plant, growing to 2-3 feet wide by 2 feet tall. The dark green leaves are 1 to 1.5 feet long and 1 inch wide at their widest point. They are decorated with white markings and thin white marginal fibers. Plants that are five to ten years old consist of 100-150 leaves which radiate uniformly from the center, giving the plants a very symmetrical shape. There are no marginal teeth on the leaves; however, the tip is very sharp and can inflict some damage. The flower stalk is 10 feet to 12 feet tall and is densely loaded with dark purple flowers.

CULTURE/MAINTENANCE: *Agave schidigera* is tolerant of most southwestern soils. The only requirement is that it have good drainage and not be waterlogged. Plants have a moderate growth rate, responding to some supplemental water during the growing season (spring through early fall). Plants may benefit from fertilization in the spring and during the monsoon season. This clone has been grown in cultivation for 12 years. Plants have been subjected to winter lows of 15 degrees without suffering any damage. The only observed damage was from early morning overhead watering in the winter. The water froze and resulted in pockmarks on the leaves. Plants should be drip irrigated when in the ground.

IDENTIFICATION: *Durango Delight*™ is easily recognized by its very symmetrical shape, dark green sword-like leaves with distinctive white markings, and white marginal fibers. The only *Agave* species that this could be confused with is *Agave filifera*. These two are separated by the non-offsetting nature of *Agave schidigera* compared to the offsetting nature of *Agave filifera*.

LANDSCAPE APPLICATION: *Agave schidigera* is quite versatile. Because of its symmetrical form and relatively small size, this plant is very attractive when grown in pots. It works well in full sun or filtered light and can be placed in any zone of a xeriscape. Also, because of the small size, it can be used effectively in spaces as small as 2 or 3 feet wide. Plants can be grouped together or planted among boulders in a rock or cactus garden. They work well with perennials such as *Amsonia palmeri*, *Dyssodia pentachaeta*, *Eupatorium greggii Boothill*™, *Hymenoxys acaulis*, and *Zephyranthes citrina*.



Other small plants that work well with this agave include *Dalea capitata Sierra Gold*™, *Penstemon baccharifolius Del Rio*™, and *Salvia greggii*. Some plants that could be used as an overstory to shade the Agave would be *Acacia willardiana*, *Bauhinia lunarioides* (syn. *B. congesta*), *Cercidium microphyllum*, *Cercidium hybrid 'Desert Museum'*, and *Fraxinus greggii*.

PRECAUTIONS: As with all other *Agave* species, this one should be treated two or three times a year for the Agave Snout Weevil that tunnels into the stem. Also, there is a type of sucking insect that may cause leaf spotting. This can be treated with a systemic insecticide. Do not apply

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PERENNIAL

AGAVE SCHIDIGERA
DURANGO DELIGHT™



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overhead water early in the morning
in the winter as the water may
freeze on the leaves and cause spot-
ting.



A 7 year old specimen of *Agave schidigera*



The compact size of **Durango Delight™**
makes it an ideal container plant.



A section of the flower
spike of **Durango Delight™**.

AT A GLANCE SUMMARY	
SIZE (HEIGHT x WIDTH)	2 Feet x 2-3 feet
FLOWER COLOR	Reddish - purple
FLOWER SEASON	Winter, spring (Blooms once, then dies)
EXPOSURE	Full sun, part shade
WATER	Low
GROWTH RATE	Fast
HARDINESS	At least 15° F USDA 8
PRUNING	None
HARDY IN THESE CITIES	Phoenix, Tucson, Palm Desert, San Diego, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, El Paso, San Antonio, Houston, South Texas, West Texas

For more information, call: toll-free (800) 840-8509 or (623) 247-8509
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