

Hurricane resistant trees for Marco Island



This list includes trees identified by the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) field studies based on hurricane resistance. Many factors affect hurricane resistance, including age, tree health, soils and location; this list does not account for unique environmental conditions that may affect your planting area. These lists should be used with caution: Hurricane characteristics other than wind, such as rain amount and storm duration, can also influence the ability of trees to survive hurricanes.

Important recommendations from University of Florida

- One of the most important findings reported is the rooting space results: the more rooting space that a tree has, the healthier it is, meaning better anchorage and resistance to wind.
- Another important cultural practice for broadleaved trees is pruning. Pruning conferred more wind resistance to trees and should be considered an important practice for tree health and wind resistance.
- Trees growing in groups or clusters were also more wind resistant compared to individual trees, a good strategy for tree establishment in parks or larger yards.
- Especially in south Florida, native trees appear to survive winds better than exotics. Know which exotic species do not fare well in wind—some of these include melaleuca, Australian pine, queen palm, African tulip tree, and weeping banyan.

Palms

Highest wind resistance	Medium-high wind resistance	Medium-low wind resistance
Butia capitata, pindo or jelly Dypsis lutescens, areca Coccolthrinax argentata, Florida silver Hyophorbe lagenicaulis, bottle Hyophorbe verschaffeltii, spindle Latania loddigesii, blue latan Phoenix canariensis, Canary Island date Phoenix dactylifera, date Phoenix roebelenii, pygmy date Ptychoesperma elegans, Alexander Sabal palmetto, cabbage, sabal Thrinax morrisii, key thatch Thrinax radiata, Florida thatch Veitchia merrillii, Manila palm	Caryota mitis, fishtail Cocos nucifera, coconut Dypsis decaryi, triangle Roystonea regia, royal palm	N/A

Hurricane resistant Trees

Dicots

Highest wind resistance	Medium-high wind resistance	Medium-low wind resistance
<p>Bursera simaruba, gumbo limbo Carya Floridana, Florida scrub hickory Conocarpus erectus, buttonwood Chrysobalanus icaco, cocoplum Cordia sebestena, geiger tree Eugenia axillaris, white stopper Eugenia confusa, redberry Eugenia foetida, boxleaf stopper Guaiacum sanctum, lignum vitae Ilex cassine, dahoon holly Krugiodendrum ferreum, ironwood Lagerstroemia indica, crape myrtle Magnolia grandiflora, southern magnolia Podocarpus spp, podocarpus Quercus virginiana, live oak Quercus geminata, sand live oak</p>	<p>Annona glabra, pond apple Chrysophyllum oliviforme, satinleaf Coccoloba uvifera, sea grape Coccoloba diversifolia, pigeon plum Liquidambar styraciflua, sweetgum Lysiloma latsiliqua, wild tamarind Magnolia virginiana, magnolia Nyssa sylvatica, black tupelo Sideroxylon foetidissimum, mastic Simarouba glauca, paradise tree Swietenia mahagoni, mahogany</p>	<p>Acer rubrum, red maple Bauhinia blakeana, Hong-Kong orchid Bucida buceras, black olive Callistemon spp, bottlebrush Delonix regia, royal poinciana Enterolobium cyclocarpum, ear tree Eriobotrya japonica, loquat Eucalyptus cinerea, silverdollar eucalyptus Ficus aurea, strangler fig Kigelia pinnata, sausage tree Myrica cerifera, wax myrtle Persea borbonia, redbay Platanus occidentalis, sycamore Quercus laurifolia, laurel oak Tabebuia heterophylla, trumpet tree Terminalia catappa, tropical almond</p>

Conifers

Highest wind resistance	Medium-high wind resistance	Medium-low wind resistance
<p>Taxodium ascendens, pond cypress Taxodium distichum, bald cypress</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Pinus elliottii, slash pine Pinus palustris, longleaf pine</p>

Fruit Trees

Highest wind resistance	Medium-high wind resistance	Medium-low wind resistance
<p>N/A</p>	<p>Litchi chinensis, lychee</p>	<p>Averrhoa carambola, star-fruit, carambola Citrus spp, oranges, limes, grapefruits Mangifera indica, mango</p>