

# GRANT STEPHENSON

GRANT STEPHENSON'S fascination with the plant world began at the age of three while working with his grandmother in her garden. After studying landscape design and architecture at Louisiana State University, Grant entered the horticulture industry, selling for (at the time) one of the nation's largest ornamental plant brokerage firms, Jenco, in Austin, Texas. While in Austin, Grant came to be relied on as a spokesperson in the horticulture industry, fielding gardening questions on popular local radio programs, providing advice to community groups and businesses concerned with environmentally sound solutions to landscape problems, and helping provide greenery to decorate the sets of PBS's Austin City Limits TV series.

Building on his experience working with architects, developers, property managers, and contractors, Grant joined the Spencer Company, then ventured into helping create a growing nursery at Houston's Treesearch Farms, where he served as plant buyer and helped initiate a re-wholesaling business. Grant offered his expertise and unique services to many of Texas' best nurseries and brokerages and became recognized locally and nationally as an unparalleled expert on hardy palms, cycads, and bamboos.

In 1991 Grant's knowledge, passion, and hard work flowered into Horticultural Consultants, Inc., now the preferred supplier of palms and other tropical plants to the nation's most demanding landscape architects, commercial nurseries, real estate developers, contractors, botanical gardens, and theme parks.

Since beginning his company, Grant has consulted for Mercer Arboretum, Moody Gardens, Pappas Restaurants, the Cities of Houston, Freeport, Nassau Bay, and Seabrook; The Texas Department of Transportation, South Shore Harbor, New Territory, the Finger Companies, the Woodlands Corporation, Galveston County, Walt Disney World, Tennessee Zoo, Phoenix Zoo, San Antonio Zoo, Houston Zoo, New Orleans Aquarium, Corpus Christi Aquarium, the San Antonio River Walk, San Antonio Botanical Garden, Dixieland Theme Parks, and Six Flags Astroworld, to name a few.

Grant has traveled to collect and acquire palms in Texas, Florida, California, Arizona, Mexico, Hawaii, and the Bahamas, and maintains active relationships with botanists, growers, and plant enthusiasts across the country and overseas.

Grant belongs to the following organizations and is a regular participant in several horticultural events:

#### **Organizations:**

American Cycad Society  
The International Palm Society  
The American Bamboo Society  
Palm Society of South Texas  
Association of Zoological Horticulture  
Texas Nursery & Landscape Association  
Cycad Society of South Africa  
Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society  
Palm Society of Southern California  
American Association of Botanical Gardens & Arboreta  
Hardy Palm International

#### **Tradeshows:**

ALSA San Antonio and New Orleans 2003  
The Nursery / Landscape Expo, Houston, TX  
Western States Palm Conference



*Grant Stephenson*

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