Common Screw Pine

*Pandanus utilis*

Above: Linear, spiny leaves are arranged in a spiral, hence the common name screw pine.

Above: The form of common screw pine. Old leaf scars spiral around branches.

Left: Aerial prop roots anchor the plant and keep it upright in heavy winds.
Common Screw Pine
_**Pandanus utilis**_  
Family: Pandanaceae

**Stem & Leaf Type:** herbaceous  
**Size:** 20-60’ tall and 20’ wide  
**USDA Hardiness Zones:** 10-11  
**Leaves:** linear, simple, and without petioles  
**Leaf Color:** blue/green to dark green  
**Fall Color:** none  
**Flowers:** dioecious—long spikes  
**Fruit:** resembles pinecones  
**Light:** full sun  
**Moisture:** moist to well drained  
**Insect/Disease Issues:** few  
**Nativity:** Madagascar  
**Location in the Gardens:** Conservatory

**Culture & Landscape Value:**  
Salt tolerant in its native habitat, it is used for erosion control on coast lines  
Will not survive frost, and should be brought indoors  
The leaves have historically been used for thatching, basket and mat weaving

**Notes:**  
Although the name ‘pine’ is in the common name, Screw Pine is a monocot  
Seeds take 2-3 months to germinate

**Months of Interest:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

November 2019