

OUR MONDI IS TALKING.

It's time we *protect* our native plants.



Native plants - Fact Sheet

Why native plants matter

Native plants are the foundation of Aruba's natural ecosystems. They provide food and shelter for wildlife, support biodiversity, stabilize and fertilize soils naturally, protect coastlines, and have adapted over thousands of years to thrive in Aruba's arid climate. Healthy native vegetation supports healthy ecosystems and communities.

Did you know?

Aruba's landscape hasn't always looked the way it does today.

Centuries ago, much of the island supported a richer diversity of native trees and shrubs. Over time, extensive logging, changing land use and the introduction of grazing animals such as goats, donkeys and horses transformed Aruba's natural vegetation.

Today, restoring native plants helps rebuild the natural habitats that Aruba's wildlife depends on.

Not all plants are the same.

Native

Plants that naturally grow in Aruba.

Endemic

Plants found only in Aruba and nowhere else in the world.

Non-native

Plants introduced from other parts of the world.

Invasive

Non-native plants that spread rapidly and harm native ecosystems.

Built for Aruba

Native plants have evolved to survive Aruba's arid climate, strong winds and soils. They require less water than many introduced species and provide the food and habitat that native wildlife depends on.

Why native plants are important:

1. Provide food sources and support native biodiversity.
2. Stabilizes and enriches soil naturally.
3. Built for Aruba's climate.
4. Provides shade and cools our community from urban heat.

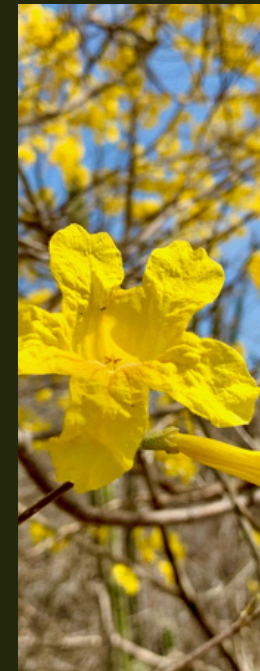
Main threats to native plants

1. Habitat loss
2. Drought & climate stress
3. Landscaping with non-native species
4. Overgrazing
5. Invasive plants
6. Pesticides & chemicals



Value of a native garden:

1. Attracts birds, bees and butterflies (pollinators)
2. Provides food and shelter for wildlife
3. Uses less water
4. Keeps soil healthy
5. Helps cool your surroundings



Responsible behavior

- ✓ Plant native trees
- ✓ Let nature grow
- ✓ Keep one wild corner in your garden
- ✓ "Chapi" less
- ✓ Avoid pesticides and artificial fertilizers
- ✓ Grow a native garden

ACF conservation actions

- ✓ Native plants green house
- ✓ Native habitat restoration
- ✓ Botanic garden
- ✓ Research and monitoring
- ✓ Raise awareness through education

Nature has no boundaries and its protection is a *shared responsibility*.