



# 戶外通識教室：郊野竟有刺客？

## Nature's Classroom: Spiny Date Palm

刺葵別名鳳凰棕，棕櫚科(Arecaceae)，刺葵屬(Phoenix)，樹幹強壯，在中央及基部不規則地擴大。喜愛到郊外行山的朋友對牠一定不會陌生，因為刺葵擁有針狀葉，只要稍一不慎走過時便足以帶來短暫痛楚，可能因此而被列為本港之受保護植物，以凸顯其受保護的身份，免遭到不必要的「報復」。刺葵的羽狀複葉細長而扁平，以覆瓦狀生於莖部，葉尖收窄成針狀，有如硬刺。其生長速度緩慢，故高度多僅及腰部，間中亦有老株高逾人頭者，繁殖季節發銹色花蕊，現時所見純屬自然繁殖，並無人工栽種。

It belongs to the family of Palmae (Arecaceae); straight trunk. Though it can grow up to 6m, but it grows quite slowly & therefore it can hardly find a tall tree in HK. It has compound leaf, divided with narrow segments (linear, folded, v-shaped at the base); single or in clusters of 2 or 3, the leaves are long & spine-like, sharply pointed.

Spiny date palm (*Phoenix hanceana*)

