ArborTags



The Devils-walkingstick is one of the few trees with large bi-pinnate or doubly compound leaves. The entire leaf can be from 2 to 5 feet long, while the leaflets are only 2-4 inches long.

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Aralia spinosa

Devilswalkingstick

Hercules-club

Aralia spinosa

Devilswalkingstick

Hercules-club



A glance at the trunk and stems of the Devils-walkingstick is enough to determine how it got its name: prickles everywhere. Even the major axis of the leaf can have spines.

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In late summer it blossoms with large clusters of greenish white flowers. Losing its enormous leaves in the fall changes the tree from a full bushy plant to a gaunt thorny standard.

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Aralia spinosa

Devilswalkingstick

Hercules-club

Aralia spinosa

Devilswalkingstick

Hercules-club

Often treated as an unwanted weed the Devils-walkingstick is seldom seen as a full-grown tree. The purple-black berries provide great food for the birds. The aromatic spicy roots are said to have been used medicinally as a cure for toothaches.

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