The *Dypsis decaryi* (Jum.) Beentje & J. Dransf. (1995) is native to Madagascar, where it grows in a limited area of the South, in forests or brushwoods on stony soils.

The etymology of the genus is not known; the species is honoured to its collector, the French naturalist Raymond Decary (1891-1973).

It shows a dark grey solitary trunk, tall up to 8 m, and diameter of 30-40 cm; the leaves, pinnate, long up to 3 m, are ascending, almost upright, apart the terminal tip, clearly arched, and disposed on three directions.

The petiole is short, of pale green colour, with a reddish down partially covered by white wax at the base; the leaflets are green-grey and inserted regularly on the rachis, to form a V turned upwards, the basal ones reduced to long filaments, hanging along the trunk. The ramified inflorescence, long about 120 cm, develops between the leaves and carries yellowish flowers united in groups of three (two male, one female), of about 3 mm of diameter; the fruits are ovoid, of yellowish green colour, of about 12-20 mm of diameter. The seeds germinate in 1-2 months.

It is widely cultivated for its ornamental characteristics, in particular due to the tristichous disposition and the colour of the leaves, in the tropical, subtropical and warm-temperate areas, where it can bear, when adult, and for short periods, lowest temperatures in the order of -2/-3 °C. Its main exigencies are full sun and very good drainage of the ground, besides this, it adapts to even poor soils, and when adult can bear long drought periods.

**Category:** Palms  
**Families:** Arecaceae  
**Genus:** Dypsis  
**Species:** decaryi  
**Geographical Area of Origin:** Madagascar  
**Climatic Zones:** Sub-tropical, USDA 10 b (Southern Italy and islands)  
**Habit:** Single stemmed palm  
**Leaves:** Bipinnate leaf
Colore Foglie: Verde  Grigio
Flowering Period: Luglio / Agosto / Settembre
Flower: Raceme
Colore Fiori: Giallo
Favorite soil: Sub-acid / medium acid / Light sandy / Middle-Dough / Medium soil
Water needs: Medium / Low / little water
Light Exposure: Full light / Full sun / Medium shade / Half shade
Form: Palm
Colore Frutti: Verde  Viola