



## Dragon Tree



**Plant Botanical Name:**

*Dracaena draco*

**USBG Plant Location:**

Conservatory

**Conservatory Room Location:**

World Deserts

**Plant Threat Level:**

Vulnerable

*Dracaena draco*, or dragon tree, is a vulnerable plant endemic to the arid, rocky mountain ranges of the Canary Islands, Madeira and Cape Verde. Though relatively common as a houseplant and garden specimen, there are very few remaining in its narrow ecological range. The dark red sap of *Dracaena draco* has been used for centuries in European legends as "the blood of dragons," and was often used for its supposed magical and medicinal qualities. This resin is still used today in varnishes used to stain and polish wood, such as Stradivarius violins.

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**Source URL:** <https://www.usbg.gov/plants/dragon-tree-0>