



DOT PALM, Inc.

LANDSCAPING & TREE SERVICES

Servicing The Florida Keys

Little White House
Key West, Florida

12-20-2011

Report on Avocado (*Persea Americana*) and Gumbo Limbo (*Bersera Simaruba*)

These trees are located near the southern boundary of the Little White House. Both trees were trimmed back hard by the yard man of the adjoining property, known as the Machine Shop (now a private residence). The pruning was conducted to trim limbs back to/beyond the fence line. Improper cuts were made on both trees leaving stubs anywhere from a couple of feet to 6' in length on limbs ranging in size from 2" to 6" in diameter.

Recommendation for the Avocado: Remove any stubs that died or have tears in the bark. Also remove dead wood from the canopy and reduce one remaining limb over neighbor's garage to a good leader.

Recommendation for the Gumbo Limbo: There are several stubs that need to be removed back to a crotch because any new shoots will not be strongly attached and will become a possible hazard in the future. Next would be to remove the dead wood in the canopy and lightly prune the canopy to bring the tree back to a better balance. Since the Gumbo Limbo has a bad infestation of Rugos Spiraling White Fly, it would be wise to get the pest population under control prior to any pruning. This will reduce the chance of any further decline in the canopy.

As to the health and future of both trees, it is my personal and professional opinion they will continue to thrive. However, any future trimming should be done under the care of a Certified Arborist.

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Certified Arborist
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