PLANT FACT SHEET

Opuntia dejecta Salm-Dyck

GENUS *Opuntia* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Spiny nopal, Nopal chamacuero

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Stems

The fruit are eaten.
The young flattened stems are cut into strips, cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. It is a spiny shrub or small tree. It grows 5 m tall. The flowers are dark red. The fruit are 3-4 cm long and dark red when ripe.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It is often in coastal thicket. It grows up to 1,350 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is used as a living hedge.

REFERENCES

Anderson, E.F., 2001, The Cactus Family, Timber Press. p 490 (As Nopalea dejecta)

Fern, K., 2012, Tropical Species Database http://theferns.info/tropical/

Fouqué, A. 1972. Espèces fruitières d'Amérique tropicale. Institut français de recherches fruitierès outre-mer (As Nopalea dejecta)

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 570 (As Nopalea dejecta)

Martin, F. W., et al, 1987, Perennial Edible Fruits of the Tropics. USDA Handbook 642 p 88 (As Nopalea dejecta)

Piedra-Malagón, E. M. et al, 2022, Edible native plants of the Gulf of Mexico Province. Biodiversity Data Journal 10: e80565 p 15 (As Nopalea dejecta)

Segura, S. et al, 2018, The edible fruit species in Mexico. Genet Resour Crop Evol (2018) 65:1767–1793

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/09e86d2c-9ebd-4463-8cfa-1879728a2737