PLANT FACT SHEET

Leucostele nigripilis (Phil.) P.C.Guerrero & Helmut Walter

GENUS *Leucostele* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Quisco coquimbano

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. It is a shrubby plant. It usually forms branches near the base and can lie along the ground. It forms dense thickets and can be 1 m tall. The stem are cylinder shaped and 8 cm across. There are 12-13 ribs. The buds for the spines are large and round and yellowish. The spines are straight and stout. They are brown but turn grey with are age. There are 3-4 central spines up to 5 cm long and a ring of 8-12 spines around which are 1-2 cm long. The flowers can be at the tips or at the sides. They are bell shaped and open day and night. The flowers are 12 cm long and bell shaped. The fruit round and green. They are edible.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows along the coast of Chile.

REFERENCES

Anderson, E.F., 2001, The Cactus Family, Timber Press p 264 (As Echinopsis coquimbana)

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Leon-Lobos, P., et al, 2022, Patterns of Traditional and Modern Uses of Wild Edible Native Plants of Chile: Challenges and Future Perspectives. Plants (Basel) v 11 (6) Table S1

Martin, F. W., et al, 1987, Perennial Edible Fruits of the Tropics. USDA Handbook 642 p 89 (As Trichocereus coquimbanus)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/10eac7e1-d009-487d-afca-c756dae0897a