PLANT FACT SHEET

Selenicereus guatemalensis (Eichlam) D. R. Hunt

GENUS *Selenicereus* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Guatemalan pitahaya

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. The stems have 3 angles. They climb into trees. They are bluish or greyish-green. They are 4 m long and 2-7 cm wide. The ribs have bumps along the edge. The spine spots are 2 cm apart. There are 2-4 cone shaped spines. They are 2 mm long. The flowers come out at night. They have a sweet smell. They are 30 cm long and 20 cm wide. They are white and pink on the outside. The fruit are 6-7 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the forest. It needs light shade. It needs to grow in acid compost. It needs a temperature above 15°C.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

They are normally grown from cuttings which are dried out for a week or two.

NOTES

There are 18-24 Hylocereus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/11a6f196-6694-4257-aa58-7a4a37a293c5