PLANT FACT SHEET

Cereus hexagonus (L.) Mill.

GENUS *Cereus* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Columnar cactus

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Stems

The fruit can be eaten raw.
The stems can be used as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A columnar or tree like cactus. It can grow 6-10 m tall. The trunk can be 25 cm across. It has a few stout jointed branches. These usually have 6 sharp angles. The ribs bear clusters of several brown spines. The flowers are large and white and flower at night. The fruit are pale red and have a thick rind. The pulp is white or pink and it has black seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They must have acid soil. It grows in savannah.

NOTES

There are 34-40 Cereus species.

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