PLANT FACT SHEET

Opuntia soederstromiana Britton & Rose

GENUS *Opuntia* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Ecuador prickly pear

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are edible but only occasionally eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. It is shrubby and has loose branches. When young it is brilliant green. The leaves are green with red tips 2-4 mm long. The spines can be 6 cm long. They are curved and twisted. The flowers are yellow and orange. The fruit are red and covered with spines.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in the highlands of Ecuador between 1,000-3,000 m above sea level.

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