PLANT FACT SHEET

Opuntia elatior Mill.

GENUS *Opuntia* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Fafdo-Thor

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are sweet and eaten raw after removing the spines. They are also roasted.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. It is shrubby and forms clumps. They can be 5 m high. The stem segments are oblong and olive green. They are 10-40 cm long. There are 2-8 spines which are like needles and dark brown. They are 2-7 cm long. The flowers are yellow with red stripes. They are 5 cm across. The fruit are oval and red. They are fleshy.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In the Himalayas it grows up to 2,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In India in the Ghats fruit are available January to July.

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Syn. pl. succ. 189. 1812 (As Opuntia nigricans)

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