PLANT FACT SHEET

Opuntia pottsii Salm-Dyck

GENUS *Opuntia* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Prickly pear

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Stem juice, Fruit

The stems are boiled and the juice squeezed out then mixed with cornmeal in tortillas to make them more cohesive.
The fruit are used to make wine. The juice is allowed to stand until it thickens and is then bottled.
The stems are used like egg whites.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. It usually has a single trunk. The cladodes can be 20 cm long. The spins are short. The flowers are yellow. Fruit are oval to round. They turn red when ripe and are 3 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant.

REFERENCES

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 65 (Also as Opuntia tenuispina)

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 588 (As Opuntia macrorhiza subsp. pottsii)

Wikipedia (As Opuntia setispina)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/4d623bd8-f447-41f3-af9e-1b8aaca57122