PLANT FACT SHEET

Leuenbergeria bleo (Kunth) Lode

GENUS *Leuenbergeria* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Bleo, Orange rose-cactus

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The leaves are eaten as a salad.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. It is a clambering shrub. It loses some of its leaves. It is thorny. It grows 3-6 m high. The stems are dark green when young. There are spines in clusters of 6. These are about 1 cm long. The leaves are oblong. They are rubbery and 8-18 cm long. The tips are tapered. The edges are wavy. The leaf stalks are 5 cm long. The flowers are pink or orange. They occur singly and are 8 cm across. The fruit are top shaped. The ripen yellow.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits places with seasonally moist and dry climates. It needs sandy, well-drained soil. It can tolerate some salt. In Panama and Colombia it grows along streams up to 500 m altitude. It grows in plant hardiness zones 10-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from cuttings. It can be used for hedges.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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