PLANT FACT SHEET

Ferocactus hamatacanthus (Muehlenpf.) Britton & Rose

GENUS *Ferocactus* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Mexican fruit cactus

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, bud

The fruit are used as a substitute for lemons as an acid flavouring.
The fruit is dried and used as a sweetmeat.
The unopened flower buds are soaked in water overnight then boiled or fried.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. Plants are usually single. They are round or cylinder shaped and 60 cm high by 30 cm across. There are 12-17 ribs. There are 4-8 central spines that are curved backwards and hooked at the tip. They can be twisted and are 8 cm long. There are 8-20 spines around these and they are straight and 1.5-8 cm long. The flowers are funnel shaped and yellow. They are 6-10 cm long. The fruit are oval and green to red. They are 2.5-5 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in dry and open areas. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/72304510-1d2f-4d9e-ace0-009fa56bb87c