PLANT FACT SHEET

Echinocereus engelmanni (Parry ex Engelmann) Lemaire

GENUS *Echinocereus* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Strawberry hedgehog cactus

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh and served with cream and sugar. They are also used for jam and sauces.

DESCRIPTION

A cactus which forms clumps. There can be 3-60 stems from the base. It can be 25 cm high. The stems are 5-7 cm thick. They have 10-14 ribs. The spine spots are large and round. They are about 1 cm apart. The spines are of various colours. There are 10-12 spines which radiate out and they are about 1 cm long. There are 2-6 spines in the centre which are 6 cm long. The flowers are 5-8 cm long and 7 cm across. They are pinkish-red. The fruit are red and juicy. They are 3 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It needs a sunny position. It needs a temperature above 10°C. It suits hardiness zones 7-11. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 60 Echinocereus species.

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