PLANT FACT SHEET

Opuntia dillenii (Ker-Gawl.) Haw.

GENUS *Opuntia* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Dillen prickly pear

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Flowers, stem, Leaves

The fruit are peeled then eaten fresh, preserved or made into wine.
Young joints can be cut into pieces then boiled or dried.

DESCRIPTION

A sprawling cactus. It grows to 3 m high. The joints are oval and dark-green. It has thorns over the plant. There can be a few or many. There can be up to 10 spines per spot and they are 1-4 cm long. They can be straight, twisted or curved. The flowers are pale yellow and 8 cm long. It flowers in the daytime. The fruit are 5-8 cm long.

Probably now Opuntia stricta

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It can stand very dry conditions. It grows in sandy, waste places. It needs full sun. It needs a temperature above 13°C. In Sichuan. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by chopping them into small pieces and drying before planting.

NOTES

There are about 250 Opuntia species.

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