PLANT FACT SHEET

Opuntia microdasys (Lehm.) Pfeiff.

GENUS *Opuntia* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Bunny-ear prickly pear

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Seeds

DESCRIPTION

A bushy cactus. Varieties can vary between 45 to 60 cm high. They can spread 2 m across. The joints can be 6-12 cm long. They are light green and oval. The flowers are yellow and 3-5 cm wide. They are cup shaped. The buds are reddish. The fruit are round and dark red.

HABITAT

A tropical and subtropical plant. It needs slight shade. It needs temperatures above 10°C to grow. Plants can tolerate temperatures down to -7°C for short periods. Geelong Botanical Gardens. It grows in arid desert zones. It needs open well-drained soils. It needs full sun. It needs plant hardiness zones 9-12. Queen Sirikit BG.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 250 Opuntia species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/da4b6245-d76d-41e1-aedd-794608c48c06