



PLANT FACT SHEET

Cylindropuntia whipplei (L.D. Benson) Rebman

GENUS *Cylindropuntia* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Whipple Cholla, Prickly pear

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, stem, Seeds

The fruit can be eaten raw or stewed. They can also be dried for later use after the spines are rubbed off. The seeds can be parched and dried and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A bushy cactus. It is straggling and 1 m high. The joints are dull green and 5-30 cm long by 2 cm wide. There are lumps about 1 cm long and wide. There are 6-10 spines in a spine spot. They are 2.5-5 cm long and have strong barbs. The flowers are pale yellow. They are 3 cm across. The fruit are dry and very spiny. They are 2.5-3 cm long by 1.5-3 cm wide.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It needs sun. It grows in dry rocky areas. It needs a temperature above 10°C.

NOTES

There are about 250 *Opuntia* species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

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WHITING. (As *Opuntia whipplei*)

PROVIDED BY Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET <https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/f8abcdf2-6890-46c5-8772-24cdc9212097>