

List of edible cacti

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This is a list^[1] of edible plants in the family Cactaceae.

- *Acanthocereus tetragonus*, the sword pear,
- *Carnegiea gigantea*, the *Saguaro*,
- *Cereus repandus* - California and Florida
- genus *Corryocactus* (also known as *Erdisia*), the tasty berrylike
 - *C. brevistylis*, *C. pulquiensis*, and *C. erectus*
- *Coryphantha*
 - *C. robbinsorum* and *C. recurvata*.
- genus *Echinocereus* ("Strawberry Cactus")
 - *E. engelmannii*, *E. bonkeriae*, *E. boyce-thompsonii*
 - *E. enneacanthus*, *E. cincerascens*, *E. stramineus*
 - *E. dasyacanthus*, *E. fendleri* and *E. fasciculatus*
 - *E. brandegeei*, *E. ledingii* and *E. nicholii*
 - *E. engelmannii* ("Strawberry Vanilla")
- genus *Echinopsis*
 - South American species
 - *E. (or T.) atacamensis*, *E./T. coquimbana* and *E./T. schickendanzii*
- genus *Epiphyllum*, the Orchid cactus
 - *E. anguliger* (also called *Phyllocactus darrahii*, said to be like gooseberries)
- genus *Epithelantha* (the fruit of all species said to be edible)
- genus *Ferocactus*
 - *Ferocactus hamatacanthus*
 - *F. hystrix* ("*borrachitos*") and *F. latispinus* ("*pochas*")
- genus *Harrisia* (of Florida and the Caribbean), the "Prickly Apples"
 - NOTE: The following 5 are said to be "endangered endemic" :
 - *H. aboriginum*, *H. simpsonii*, *H. adscendens*, *H. fragrans* and *H. eriophora*
 - *H. pomanensis*
 - Argentinian *H. balansae*
- Genus *Hylocereus*
 - *H. undatus*, *H. costaricensis*, *H. megalanthus*, *H. guatemalensis*, *H. polyrhizus* and *H. triangularis* (aka "Dragon Fruits")
- genus *Mammillaria* ("*chilitos*" as they look like tiny red chili peppers)
 - *M. applanata*, *M. meiacantha*, *M. macdougalii*, *M. lasiacantha*
 - *M. grahamii*, *M. oliviae*, *M. mainiae*, *M. microcarpa*, *M. thornberi* and many others
- *Myrtillocactus geometrizans* ("*garambulos*", taste like less-acid cranberries)
- genus *Opuntia*, the prickly pears
 - *Opuntia ficus-indica*
 - *Opuntia matudae*
 - *Opuntia fragilis*^[2]



Prickly pear fruit for sale at a market, Zacatecas, Mexico

- genus *Pachycereus*,
 - *Pachycereus pringlei*, the Cardon
 - *P. schottii*, the Senita and *P. weberi*, the *Candelabro*
- genus *Peniocereus*,
 - *Peniocereus greggii*, the Arizona Queen of the Night
 - *P. johnstonii* and *P. serpentinus*
- genus *Pereskia*
 - *P. aculeata*, the "Barbados gooseberry"
 - *P. guamacho*
- genus *Stenocereus* (quite sweet, but prone to ferment; hence the "agria" [= "sour"])
 - *S. fricii* ("Pitayo de aguas"), *S. griseus* ("Pitayo de Mayo"), *S. gummosus* ("Pitahaya agria")
 - *S. pruinosus* ("Pitayo de Octubre"), *S. montanus* ("Pitaya colorada")
 - *S. queretaroensis* ("Pitaya de Queretaro"), *S. standleyi* ("Pita Marismena"), *S. stellatus* ("Xoconostle")
 - *S. thurberi* ("Organ Pipe Cactus", "Pitayo Dulce") and *S. treleasei* ("Tunillo")



Cultivated prickly pear grown for food

References

1. Marmaro, John P. "What cacti produce edible fruit or are edible?". *GardenWeb*.
2. Kershaw, MacKinnon, Pojar (1998). *Plants of the Rocky Mountains*. Lone Pine Publishing. p. 181. ISBN 1-55105-088-9.

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