

## Opuntia ficus-indica

### (Indian-fig Opuntia, Pricklypear,)

Prickly pear is a cactus bearing beautiful yellow or orange flower and and edible fruit by mid summer time. The plant grows as a large shrub on a woody trunk. The leaf is transformed into spines and stem into cladodes which are flattened green branches. Also the fruit is covered by spines all over. It is very easy to grow this plant anywhere as it can tolerate heat, drought, cold and salt. In some country even the young stems are eaten as salads.



Plant Image

#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** Figuier de Barbarie

**Arabic Name:** تين شوكي

**Plant Type:** Cactus / Succulent

**Origin:** Mexico

**Heat Zones:** 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

**Hardiness Zones:** 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

**Uses:** Hedge, Border Plant, Container, Edible, Wildlife

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Tree Shape:** Upright

**Canopy Symmetry:** Irregular

**Canopy Density:** Open

**Canopy Texture:** Coarse

**Height at Maturity:** 3 to 5 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 3 to 5 meters

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 10 to 20 Years

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Flower Image

**Botanical Description**

**Foliage**

Leaf Scent:

**Flower**

- Flower Showiness: True
- Flower Size Range: 10 - 20
- Flower Type: Solitary
- Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)
- Flower Scent: No Fragrance
- Flower Color: White
- Seasons: Spring

**Fruit**

- Fruit Type: Berry
- Fruit Showiness: True
- Fruit Size Range: 7 - 10
- Fruit Colors: Yellow, Purple
- Seasons: Spring

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Leaf Image

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### Horticulture Management

#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** Yes

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Good

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

**Water Requirements:** Low

**Light Requirements:** Full

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#### Management

**Toxity:** No

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** No pruning at all

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** Yes

**Life Span:** 25-50 years

**Edible Parts:** Fruit

**Plant Propagations:** Cutting

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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image