



THE OFFSET

Webpage <https://sites.google.com/site/cocssok/>

Echinocereus reichenbachii subsp. baileyi in the Wichita Mountains NWR, Oklahoma. Mount Scott in the background. Photo by Michael Douglas

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

OFFICERS

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MEETING At Will Rogers Garden Center at 3400 NW 36th in Oklahoma City, the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm (except in January, the month of our show, picnic and December).

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CLUB NEWS- FROM THE PRESIDENT

If you missed Leo Chance's program in October, you missed a lot! We had a good turnout of members and around 12 visitors which all filled the room nicely. The club has purchased his book so it is in the library for those who didn't get a copy. Joyce is working on our November program -- our last meeting at the Garden Center for 2012 - we've had a pretty busy year! Officers will be meeting in January for a yearly planning session for programs for 2013. If anyone has any ideas that they would like to share regarding possible programs or field trips, feel free to contact any of us.



Nominations and election of club officers is usually carried out in October but our club activities were such this year that we were unable to get this scheduled. However, at this time I would propose that we leave the current slate of officers in place. All have indicated that they would be willing to continue in their present positions. We are approaching the time that we need to start focusing on the 2014 Conference. There is so much that needs to be done and in spreading out the planning needed for the conference among all members in the club, I think we will find that any change in officers during this time will just be counter-productive over all. Also remember that we have the 2013 Show and Sale to plan and get ready for!

See you on the 15th!

Niki Furrr



OTHER NEWS:

Marjorie Ainsworth has contacted the club and indicated that she has several succulent plants she would like to get rid of. She is not sure of the names but did describe a "round blade Sansevieria", a night blooming cereus and several "shade plants". Anyone interested can give her a call. Her phone number is 722-3406

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We have been contacted by Carol Marshank with the OKC Garden Council with a plant donation request for the National Garden Clubs 2014 Convention to be held here in OKC in May 2014. She indicated that we had participated in this several years ago and asked if we could again donate 8 plants for table décor and/or silent auction for a breakfast. In exchange we would be given advertising space for our club in their program brochure. This is a month before the Mid-States Conference we are hosting here and the advertisement opportunity would be well worth the donation. Since our Show and Sale will be at a different location than usual that year because of our conference, the additional advertising would come at a good time.

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In filling out your 2013 calendars, remember to put the 2013 Show and Sale down for June 1st and 2nd. Stickers are available- get a handful and start passing out to friends and acquaintances to put on their calendars.

CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 14TH at 6:30 pm

Where? At Niki and Tony Furrh's house.

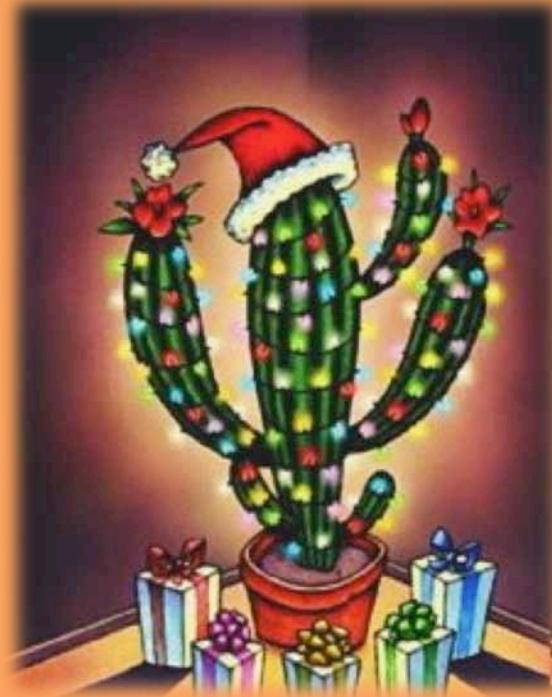


The meal will be catered by Zios Italian restaurant. Members are welcome to bring a dessert if they wish. We will start eating around 7 pm.

We will be playing a revised version of "Dirty Santa" (just to mix things up a bit) after dinner so bring a wrapped gift for each person wanting to play.

Friends, spouses, kids (nephews!) etc are all welcome. We will need a head count about 5 days before so we can order enough food.

More information to come in the December newsletter.



PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER 15TH

CSSA Judges Program-Test

Over the years the Cactus and Succulent Society of America has been certifying entrusted members to be CSSA Judges, as time went on keeping up with certifications started to fall by the wayside.

At prior conventions it was brought up to get the Judges Certification Program up and running again. So at the last Convention that was held in San Diego, California a special evening program was given at an extra cost to cover the CD production. This is an interacting program so we can all participate.

Hope to see you at the meeting! Joyce



“Thinking of you”



Our good wishes for Helen, Tony and Lawanda.

Helen Hill – Recovering from surgery

Tony Furrh – Recovering from surgery

Lawanda Keeling – Upcoming surgery

2013 CSSA CONVENTION IN AUSTIN-TX

News From CSSA!

Preview of the Sept./Oct. 2012 Journal!

From Tim Harvey:

Pediocactus peeblesianus ssp. ficeiseiniae is featured on the cover of the Sept-Oct 2012 issue of the Journal. It is one of four uncommon, miniature cacti from Northern Arizona which are the focus of an article by Peter Breslin. The sometimes

competing areas of ethics, scientific research and conservation are highlighted in a thought-provoking paper from Maurizio Dioli. Irwin Lightstone will open your eyes to the photographic possibilities without color – “The New Black & White” – with valuable tips on getting the most from this technique. Do you know the connection between Euphorbia antiquorum and James Bond? Root Gorelick will pass on the secret. Eric Ribbens and Henry Fieldspeth provide a comprehensive and well-illustrated survey of Opuntia fragilis in Minnesota. Finally, a century-old conundrum surrounding an Echinocereus from Baja has been solved by Michael Lange and Wolfgang Blum, thanks primarily to the Internet.

Thank you to Tim Harvey for this preview!

35th Biannual CSSA Convention

CSSA is well into the preparation of the 35th biennial Convention to be held in Austin Texas from June 15 to 20th, 2013. There will be much more in the months to come, but members will appreciate a chance to plan their holiday time with a reminder now of the dates. The web address for the convention is <http://CSSA2013.com>



Cactus & Succulent Society of America

35TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION
HYATT REGENCY • AUSTIN, TX
JUNE 15-20, 2013

This looks like a good convention to attend. In case you want to go but do not want to drive there is a nice option.

You can take the train to Austin from Norman or Oklahoma City. It is about \$100 round trip and I believe there are AARP and AAA discounts available. The train station in Austin is only 1.5 miles from the convention hotel so a taxi ride should not be too expensive. You have to change trains in Ft. Worth. It takes about 10 hours.

We took the Heartland flyer to Ft. Worth last year and really enjoyed it. It is quiet and comfortable and there are large windows to see the scenery as you go by. There is a small restaurant on board.

Given the gas prices and the distance this may be an option to consider if you are planning a trip to the convention. For those needing a car you can rent at the airport in Austin.

FROM THE EDITOR

Rosario Douglas

It is hard to believe it is November already. We hope you all enjoy a nice Thanksgiving this season. Below are some interesting facts about turkeys:



- There are two species of turkeys native to the forests of the Americas, one is the wild turkey and the other is the Ocellated Turkey. The turkeys we eat today are descendants of the wild turkey. The Ocellated Turkey is found in the Yucatan peninsula-Mexico, part of Belize and Guatemala.
- Europeans encountered turkeys in the Americas and took them to Europe where they were thought to be a kind of Guineafowl which at the time was known as Turkeyfowl in Europe. Guineafowls are from Africa but at the time there were many products being imported into Europe via Turkey.

The name was shortened to Turkey and that is the common name we use today for this bird.

- Benjamin Franklin wanted to make the wild turkey, not the Bald Eagle, the USA national bird.



Source: <http://www.kidzone.ws/animals/turkey.htm> and Wikipedia.

Upper left; an American wild turkey photographed by Mike Douglas in Madera Canyon, Arizona. Bottom right; a 19th century painting of the Ocellated Turkey. Bottom left; an Ocellated Turkey photographed at the San Diego Zoo by Sandy Cole. (From the Wikipedia commons).



CACTUS AND SUCCULENT HAPPENINGS IN THE REGION *By Joyce Hochtritt*

November 15, 2012, Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's monthly program and business meeting. Starting at 7:30 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center.

Program: CSSA Judging Workshop – Presented by J. Hochtritt. How to judge and present plants to be judged.

Refreshments: Joyce Hochtritt (snacks) and Deb Trimble (drinks)



2013 Cactus and Succulent Happenings in the Region

*June 15 – 20, 2013 - CSSA 35th Biennial Convention - Hyatt Regency Hotel – Austin, TX.

<http://cssa2013.com>

2014 Cactus and Succulent Happenings in the Region

The 15th Biennial Mid-States Cactus and Succulent Conference Hosted by the Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society in Oklahoma City, OK. More information to come!

If you know of any plant happenings, please send me the information. Thank you, Joyce



J & J CACTUS AND SUCCULENTS

At the Nursery Only Fall and Winter Sale October 1, 2012 to March 1, 2013, discounts starting at 20% off, Everything is for Sale!!! Regular Retail, Show Plants and a large portion of our Stock Plants. An appointment is required by phone or email to visit the Nursery!

Joyce Hochtritt, 600 N. Pine St., Midwest City, OK. 73130

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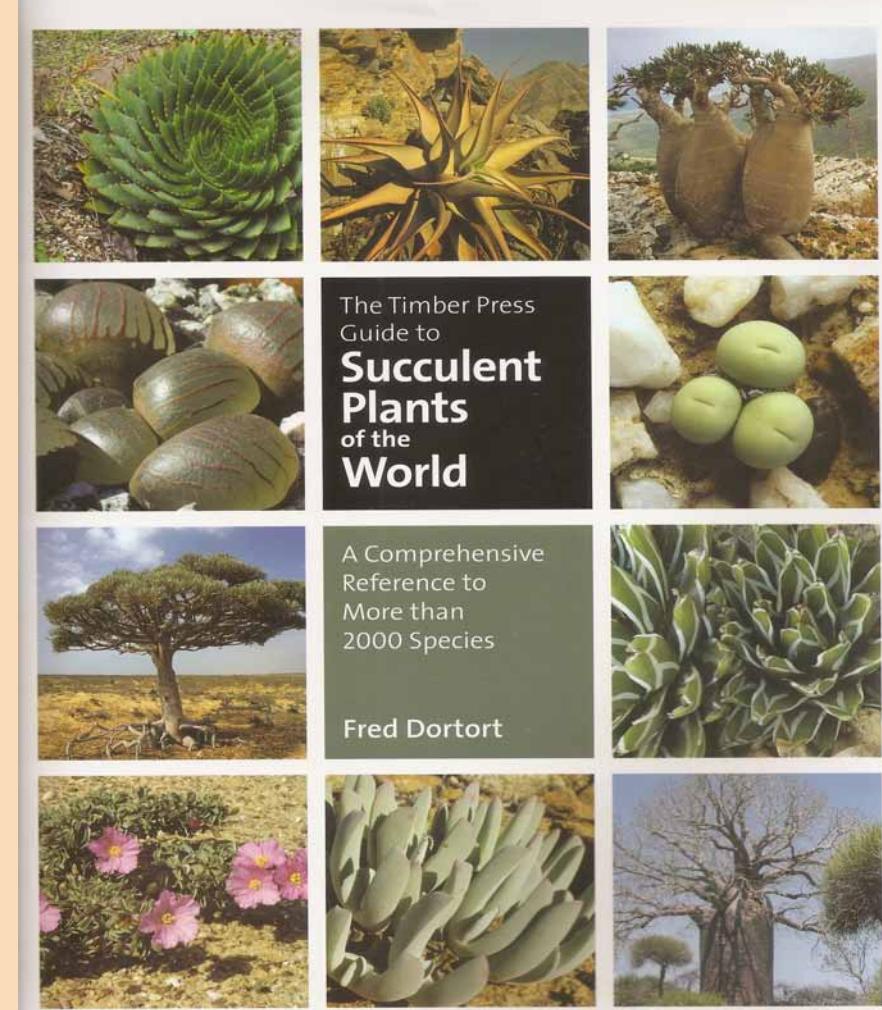
www.jjcactus-succulents.net



BOOK REVIEW

A recent addition to our club's library is *The Timber Press Guide to Succulent Plants of the World* – a comprehensive reference to more than 2000 species by Fred Dortort. This

book is a fine addition to the list of books about succulents that are currently available. This 344-page book was published in 2011 and it starts with two sections of general interest.



The first chapter of the book includes discussions about the different types of habitats favored by succulent plants, forms of succulents (subjects such as leaf versus stem succulents and window succulents are discussed) and environmental factors, such as temperature, altitude, growing season and its dependency of rainfall, that affect succulents.

The second chapter discusses succulents in cultivation. This section covers: water, location (winter versus summer rain succulents), soil mixes, commercial mixes, drainage, light (especially if growing plants indoors), ventilation, growing plants outdoors, repotting, propagation, horticultural forms and oddities, diseases and pests and finally conservation and

collecting.

The subsequent 27 chapters include an in depth discussion of important genera of succulents such as: Crassula, Euphorbia, Lithops, Aloe, Haworthia etc. Also part of this list includes chapters on succulent milkweeds with vining and caudiciform habits, Agave relatives and terrestrial bromeliads, succulent trees and pachycauls, succulent bulbs. The last chapter covers succulent odds and ends such as Peperomia, Oxalis, Callisia and Tradescantia among others. Many examples of species belonging to these different genera are discussed.

The book ends with an interesting list for further reading and the index. The author illustrates the book with many excellent photos (more than 750).

ODDS & ENDS

For those of you that enjoy word puzzles, here is a cactus related puzzle. Go to: <http://freewordsearch.net/puzzle/Fun-with-Cactus/>

You can print the puzzle and also can see the answers online.



Fun with Cactus Word Search

Cacti! Cacti! Cacti! ...is what you'll find in this puzzle. This word search Size:Medium (15x15) is jam packed with types of cactuses (which is also an acceptable plural Difficulty:Difficult (Adds misspellings) for this plant). Good luck finding them all: they go in all directions, backwards, and there are even some tricky misspelled words thrown in! [Words List](#)

LLOPHOPHORATSDP	lophophora
AINOSTETSRHUXQP	ariocarpus
CCOPIAPOAETRSUA	succulent
SLAREYCVIBNBCMI	carnegiea
SUEEVREDIUAIGAS	mammillaria
ISEIIEEGLTHNLMI	echinocereus
LAURSGGSPIPIAMR	pereskiopsis
AYEPETEAKAYCBI R	coryphantha
SRZRRCONLIRARLA	harrisia
PIKTOAI CRIOROLH	copiapoa
IKOGVL CNAACPUAG	cleistocactus
HJLEAAAOECCUSRW	aerolate
RURVWNNDTILTSMI Z	mucilage
IECHINOCEREUSAS	glabrous
HSUCCULENTASSCR	turbinicarpus
	stetsonia
	selenicereus
	rhipsalis
	rebutia

[Show Answer](#) [Print Puzzle](#)

Category: [Science](#)

WEBSITE REVIEW

by Rosario Douglas

<http://www.cactuspedia.info>



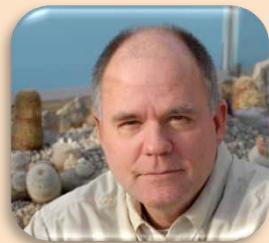
Cactuspedia is a nice webpage full of materials for the cactus and succulent lover. There are subjects such as spines, macrophotography and even a section where you can send you own photos to be published. There are useful sections about botanical, scientific and technical terminology.

A screenshot of a website titled 'Photo gallery Macro page 1' under the 'CACTUSPEDIA' header. The left sidebar includes a 'Directory' with links to 'Spines', 'Macro', 'Crest', 'Curiosity', and 'Your plant'. The main content area features a blue banner with the text 'Try Nopales for Free' and a phone number. Below this is a grid of 12 images showing various macro details of cacti and animals. Each image has a caption below it. The images include: 1. A small cactus with spines. 2. A close-up of a cactus flower. 3. A small cactus with a small insect. 4. A close-up of a cactus flower. 5. A close-up of a cactus flower. 6. A close-up of a cactus flower. 7. A close-up of a cactus flower. 8. A close-up of a cactus flower. 9. A close-up of a cactus flower. 10. A close-up of a cactus flower. 11. A close-up of a cactus flower. 12. A close-up of a cactus flower.

The screenshot shows a website for cactus spines. The top navigation bar includes a 'Directory' link, a search bar with placeholder 'Search', and a 'CACTUS' link. The main content area features a grid of images of cactus spines. The first image is a close-up of a cactus spine cluster with a caption: '† *Echinocactus horizonthalonius* var. *Imbricatus*'. The second image shows a cluster of long, sharp spines with a caption: '† *Echinocactus horizonthalonius*, *concrepans* (F.A.C.)'. The third image shows a cactus with numerous small, white, star-shaped spines. A sidebar on the left lists categories: 'Index A-B-C', 'Spines', 'Macro', 'Crest', 'Curiosity', 'Cultivars', and 'Your plant'. A promotional banner at the top right offers 'Try Nopalera for Free' with a phone number and website. A note in the top right corner says 'Archives [x]'. A small note at the bottom of the page says '[Images are clickable for a larger version]'.

In their own words: "Cactuspedia is a website devoted to cactus, succulents and other xerophytes . A new version of CACTUSPEDIA site well be launched in October 2012. We are also working to realize a new fully interactive site (The first Beta version will be available in 2013), so that members may have their own page, publicise their photography, add comments, open blogs and collaborate to the compilation of the cactus and succulent encyclopedia."

WHAT IS BLOOMING?



Photos by: Mike Douglas

Above: Lithops species after watering

Right: Huernia flowers hanging down.

Bottom left: ??

Lower right: Creeping Devil flower
(since shriveled up without flowering)



SUCCULENT PLANTS

By Rosario Douglas

The Genus Tradescantia

The genus *Tradescantia* honors two English naturalists, John Tradescant, the elder (1570-1638) and John Tradescant, the younger (1608-1682). The genus contains about 70 species in the family Commelinaceae and all species are native to the New World, found from Southern Canada to Northern Argentina. Some common names are spiderwort, oyster plant, purple heart, spider lily and wandering Jew.



The flowers can be white, pink, or purple, but are most commonly bright blue, with three petals and six yellow anthers. Plants vary from somewhere upright to scrambling which may be the reason why 3 species are referred to as wandering Jews.

“the wandering Jew” is a name given to 3 species from Eastern Mexico: *T. pallida*, *T. fluminensis* and *T. zebrina*. These are tender trailing succulent species, some with fleshy and hairy leaves. These are somewhat drought tolerant non-winter hardy plants.



Above; *Tradescantia pallida*, upper right a Tradescantia flower.

Lower right; *T. pallida* flower. (Fotos from Wikipedia commons).



The name “Wandering Jew” comes from a 13th century legend. The original legend refers to a Jew who taunted Jesus on the way to the crucifixion and was then cursed to walk the earth until the second coming (quote from Wikipedia).

All three species are used in gardens as ground

covers, borders and as house plants. *T. fluminensis* has fleshy stems and can become invasive. *T. Zebrina* is propagated by cuttings and it is used in South East Mexico to make an herbal tea against the cold.

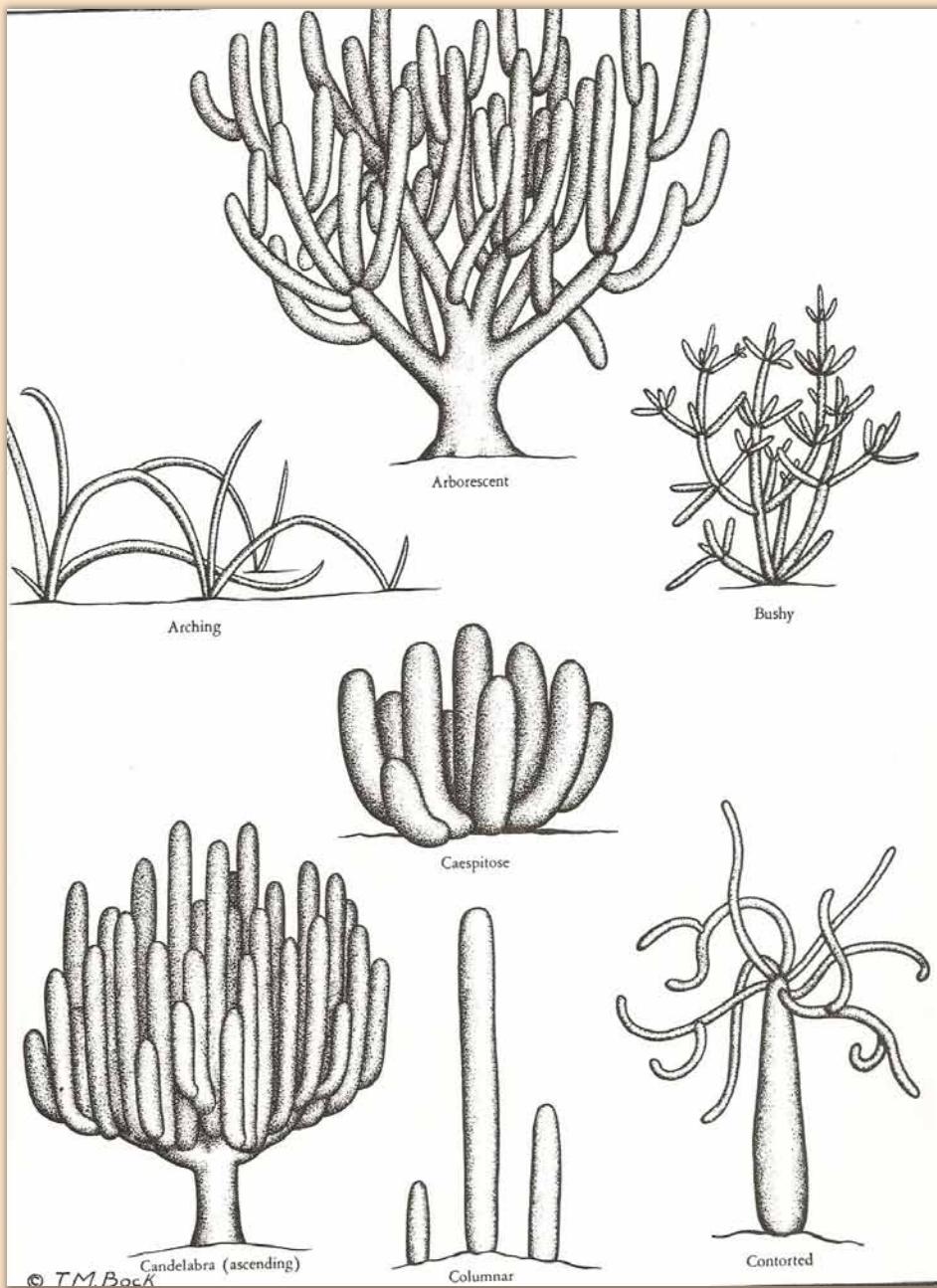


Above; *Tradescantia zebrina*. Source: Wikipedia commons. On the right; *T. pallida* taken from the web (Marcos growers). Below; *T. pallida* with *Agave americana*. Photo by Billy Goodnick found at Fine Gardening (<http://www.finegardening.com/item/8316/welcome-to-cool-green-gardens-a-view-from-the-left-coast>).



THE BOTANICAL CORNER

by Rosario Douglas



The shape of a plant including cacti can be helpful when trying to identify plants.

The illustration to the left show some common cacti shapes.

Can you think of any cactus you have or have seen that fits these shapes?

Taken from: From **Cactacea** with illustrated keys of all tribes, sub-tribes and genera by W. Taylor and Thor Methven Bock.

THE CULTIVATION CORNER

How To Successfully Grow Your Cactus Cuttings

By Annie Lancaster



A cactus cutting must be “calloused over,” meaning the cut end of the pad is dry and has sealed itself over in order to protect itself. Cuttings cannot take in water, a cactus plant must have roots to absorb water, just as other plants do.

Place your calloused cutting into a container with good drainage holes. Do not cover the holes up with broken pottery, rocks, or other items (used often when transplanting other types of plants.) Doing so will slow drainage. Using a commercial cactus planting mix which provides fast drainage, you may moisten the soil **very** slightly before planting your cutting.

You may wish to dip your cutting in a rooting hormone/ fungicide preparation to protect against fungus and stimulate new roots.

Place the cutting approximately 1 to 2 inches into the soil. Pack soil down firmly! DO NOT WATER for 2 to 4 weeks. Then water well, and allow to dry. Let soil remain dry for an additional 2 to 4 weeks before watering again.



Over watering is the most common problem with growing cactus. Remember, these plants live in areas which have very little annual rainfall. Place in a bright, warm, sunny location. Plant outdoors if possible after danger of frost has passed and the soil has warmed for the season. Plants may need to be protected for the first couple of years until they establish and harden off.

Cactus will begin to root in anywhere from 2 to 6 weeks. When roots have established, the plant will

then start to show new growth.

Winter is “dormant” season for cactus. Do not water after October 1st unless plant looks noticeably shriveled. Water held by the cactus pads can freeze, killing the entire plant, and will also cause root rot and fungus problems. Keeping cacti dry and cool during winter is essential. Even indoor cactus plants require less water during the winter months.

Do not allow water to collect into a saucer beneath the pot, cactus roots do not like continued exposure to moisture. Allow the saucer to collect any water that does drain, and replace the saucer without water in it.

Following these instructions, your cactus should do well and last many years.

Article at: <http://www.turtlestuff.com/growingcactus.html>

photo taken from the web