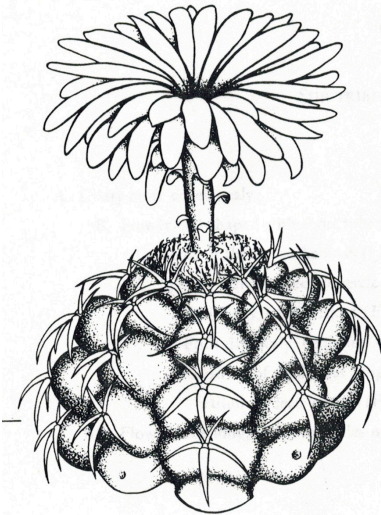


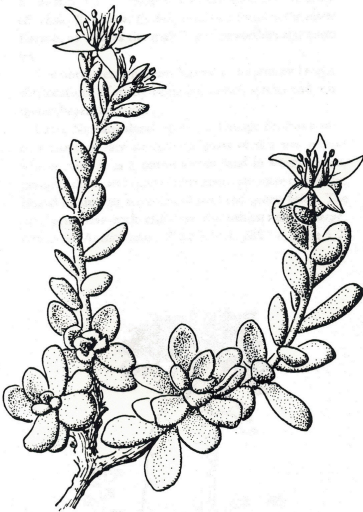
## Central Oklahoma Cactus & Succulent Society

Webpage: [Oklahomacactus.com](http://Oklahomacactus.com)

Facebook: [Oklahoma cactus](https://www.facebook.com/Oklahoma.cactus)



*Discocactus alteolens*



*Sedum niveum*



*Beaucarnea recurvata*  
(Ponytail palm)

**What are Succulents?** Succulent plants or “succulents” for short, are drought resistant plants which have the ability to store extra water in either their leaves, stems, or below ground. Although most succulents live in areas of low rainfall and high temperature, some are found in tropical rain forests or in areas that freeze every winter. The word "succulent" comes from the Latin word *sucus*, meaning juice, or sap.

**Are cactus succulents?** Yes all cacti are succulents but not all succulents are cacti. There are approximately 10,000+ species of succulent plants in the world and these belong to many plant families. Perhaps the best known of these is the cactus family (Cactaceae), of which there are about 2000 varieties. Cacti are only found (with one exception) in the Americas. Other important succulent plant families include the Euphorbia family (Euphorbiaceae), the Mesemb family (Mesembryanthemaceae), the Crassula family (Crassulaceae), the Agave family (Agavaceae), and the Aloe family (Asphodelaceae). Many plants from the Euphorbia family resemble cacti, but are mostly found in Africa.

**Types of Succulents:** Leaf, stem and root succulents. Sizes vary from small cylindrical cacti to succulent trees like the Baobabs. **Pollinators:** Range from bees, ants, beetles to bats. **Flowers:** Most cacti have large showy flowers, while most members of the Euphorbia family have small, inconspicuous flowers. Most have diurnal flowers but some have nocturnal flowers (pollinated by bats- usually white flowers).



*Pachypodium succulentum*

**Cultivation:** Most succulents require little water as they are adapted to survive in dry environments. They do need some water, especially during the growing time of the year (Spring and Summer). Very little to no water is needed during the time of year when they are not growing. Most succulents require plenty of sun. Plastic pots retain more water so sometimes clay pots are better. Remember – *succulents grow slowly*.

**Soil:** Succulents can grow in almost any soil but **good drainage** is very important. Not as much soil is needed as for your regular plants. Any soil mix should be at least 2/3 sand or sand/perlite combination. Fertilizer should be used in *small* amounts. Succulents in general do not require the rich soils that other types of plants require.

**Problems:** Overwatering results in succulents rotting. Not enough light produces etiolated stems (plant grows long and thin and towards the light). Spider mites and Aphids can damage plants. To reduce these problems treat your succulents abusively – given them lots of sun, heat, rarely water them and they may – if you are lucky – start to look like they do in the wild!

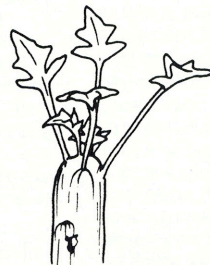


*Aloe glauca*

**Stem succulents**



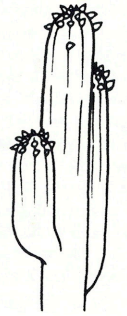
*Stapelia*



*Senecio*



*Cereus*



*Euphorbia*

