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Article/Chapter Title: Treatment of the Opuntia of North America

Author(s): Rose

Subject(s): Opuntia kunzei

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OPUNTIA EMORYI Engelm.

Opuntia emoryi ENGELM. Proc. Am. Acad. 3: 303. 1856.

Type locality: Arid soil, El Paso, Texas.

Distribution: Western Texas to Arizona and northern Mexico.

Illustrations: Cact. Mex. Bound. pls. 70, 71; Cact. Journ. 1: 154.

OPUNTIA SCHOTTII Engelm.

Opuntia schottii ENGELM. Proc. Am. Acad. 3: 304. 1856.

Type locality: Arid soil near the mouth of the San Pedro and Pecos, western Texas.

Distribution: Southern Texas and northern Mexico.

Illustration: Cact. Mex. Bound. pl. 73. figs. 1-3.

OPUNTIA SCHOTTII GREGGII Engelm.

Opuntia schottii greggii ENGELM.; Coult. Contr. Nat. Herb. 3: 444. 1896.

Type locality: San Luis Potosi.

Distribution: Only known from type collection.

Illustration: Cact. Mex. Bound. pl. 73. fig. 4.

OPUNTIA CLAVATA Engelm.

Opuntia clavata ENGELM. in Wislitz. Mem. North. Mex. 95. 1848.

Type locality: Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Distribution: Nevada and New Mexico.

Illustrations: Pac. R. Rep. 4: pl. 22. figs. 1-3; pl. 24. fig. 6; Cact. Mex. Bound. pl. 73. figs. 5, 6.

OPUNTIA PARRYI Engelm.

Opuntia parryi ENGELM. Am. Journ. Sci. II. 14: 339. 1852.

Type locality: Plains of the Mohave River, California.

Distribution: Southern California.

Illustrations: Pac. R. Rep. 4: pl. 22. figs. 4-7; Cact. Journ. 1: 132.

OPUNTIA KUNZEI Rose, sp. nov.

Stem 10 to 15 cm. high, much branched; joints somewhat clavate, light bluish green, 8 to 10 cm. long, strongly tubercled; spines numerous, the longest 4 cm. long, somewhat reddish when young; leaves linear, acute, 8 to 10 mm. long; flowers deeply set in the apex of the joint-like ovary, fragrant, 2.5 cm. long, 4 to 5 cm. broad when

fully open; sepals reddish in bud, ovate, acuminate; petals pale yellow; fruit yellowish, 4 to 8 cm. long, oblong to clavate, sometimes proliferous, the areoles large, white, bearing a fringe of white bristles; seeds white, 4 to 5 mm. in diameter, the commissure very indistinct.

Type in U. S. National Herbarium, no. 535,063, collected by Dr. R. E. Kunze in Pima County, Arizona, 1904.

Perhaps nearest *O. grahamii*, but with larger and different joints and different spines.

The species is named for Dr. Kunze, a valued correspondent and an enthusiastic cactus collector. He has furnished the following interesting data regarding this species:

I found this plant about forty miles south of the Ajo copper mines, in the southwestern part of Pima County, Arizona, and only about 25 to 35 miles north of the Mexican boundary. Immense tracts between the smaller arroyos are covered by this species, and for miles my guide led us through stretches of desert in the Gunsight Mining District, a waterless region, little known except to prospectors. On the eastern slope of the Gunsight Mountain range I collected *Cereus thurberi*, which species has its northern limit at the Ajo copper mines, Ajo being 60 miles south of Gila Bend, on the Southern Pacific Railroad. All the plants of *O. kunzei* were covered with the *Coccus cacti* to such an extent that I was obliged to collect a basketful of such or go without any. My former partner, Mr. L. Kunze, had found this *Opuntia* about the same time, 20 to 25 miles south of Casa Grande, in Pinal County, and all plants he brought in were completely covered with *Coccus*. I succeeded in cleaning only a few plants for cultivation. Those which I collected I threw into a pit, covered the mass with a peck of fine unslaked lime, and two weeks later removed a dozen live and clean plants. I will send you shortly a young plant of *O. kunzei* with an unopened flower bud. I shall try to preserve one of the flowers for you in formaldehyde solution of 2 per cent strength, as well as the fruit.

I thought the spines resembled *Opuntia grahami*, but find it different in shape of fruit as well as in thickness of its rootstock. I compared it with the cut in *Cactaceae* of Mexican Boundary Report. I have therefore no plant of *O. grahami*.

Series CYLINDRICAЕ

Further study is necessary to effect a natural grouping of the species. We include in this group the three series *Cristatae*, *Humiliores*, and *Deciduae* of Professor Schumann, which are clearly not natural ones, the relative size and number of the tubercles proving to be quite unsatisfactory characters.

OPUNTIA TUNICATA (Lehm.) Link & Otto

Cactus tunicatus LEHM. Ind. Sem. Hort. Hamburg 6. 1827.

Opuntia exuviata DC. Mem. Mus. Paris 17: 118. 1828.