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of dull, olive-green; fruit purplish red throughout, bearing light, tawny areoles 2-3 mm. in diameter, and spicules of same nature as those of the stem, 3-5 mm. long, fugacious spines being only slightly longer and consequently scarcely distinguishable from the spicules, umbilicus broad, nearly flat, pulp small in amount, acid, and not palatable, simply obovate to pyriform, about  $3-3.5 \times 4-5$  cm.; seeds small.

The species inhabits the dry, gravelly hills in the vicinity of Laredo, Texas, where it was collected in June, 1911, under my inventory number 10301. It is rather common and easily recognized in vegetative condition by the nature of its spines. The first collections were made in 1908 but the living material of this was lost at both San Antonio and Brownsville, Texas. Mature plants have been grown from the type collection, however, at Chico, California.

✓ *Opuntia curvospina* sp. nov.

An erect arborescent species, growing into a symmetrical tree form 5-8 feet high, having a distinct cylindrical trunk and a symmetrical, rounded top; joints subcircular, about 8-22 cm. in diameter, smooth, scarcely at all raised at areoles after the first year, glaucous-gray-green, yellowish-green in age; areoles large, prominent, at first light-brown but dark-brown second year, obovate, on edges of joints 5 mm. long, enlarging in age to sub-circular and 5-8 mm. in diameter; spicules yellow, irregular in length on edges of joints, about 3 mm. long in upper part and 5-8 mm. on lower edges of areole, making a nearly complete zone around the central, prominent wool, not increasing perceptibly in age for the wool develops rapidly into a columnar structure bounded by the marginal spicules and protrudes often 1 mm. or more above them; spines numerous, formidable, on second year's wood about six, four of which are yellow, often slightly tinted at base, the other two shorter, white or nearly so, diverging or bent in all directions, the four yellow centrals 4-5 cm. long, flattened, annular, twisted, bent, and curving in various directions, in age increasing to eight or more and formidable; flowers yellow, 6-7 cm. in diameter with a little dull red at the bases of the mid-ribs, and developing a little more red in center as the day advances but never becoming prominently red-centered, petals cuneiform, broadly rounded, cuspidate above, filaments yellow, style white, stigma white, large, slightly flattened, nine- or ten-parted, buds light gray-green with blush of red, uniformly distributed in upper portions of sepals; fruit dull red on outside with abundant bloom,

rind greenish, and pulp nearly colorless, oval in outline, 3.5-4 × 4.5-5.5 cm., slightly to deeply pitted, areoles tawny, subcircular, with prominent wool 1-2 mm. in diameter, spicules yellow, 1-2 mm. long, fugacious spines, delicate, 10 cm. long. [PLATE 2.]

This species is more closely related to *O. chlorotica* Engelm. & Bigel. (PLATE 3) than any other described, but it is a larger, more robust plant throughout and possesses very different spination. The seeds and the fruits are also quite different. It is apparently quite widely distributed in the California-Nevada-Arizona Desert. The type was collected between Nipton, California, and Searchlight, Nevada, in April, 1912, under my inventory number 10530, when young plants were transferred into cultivation and are still growing, slowly but vigorously.

✓ *Opuntia semispinosa* sp. nov.

An erect shrub 1-1.5 m. high and having a spread under normal conditions of 2 m. or more, either open or compactly branched, growing mostly in thickets but occasionally isolated individuals; joints obovate, mostly pointed above and below, about 12 × 25 cm., dark green with a little bloom; areoles broadly obovate to subcircular, 5 mm. in length, enlarging to subcircular or even transversely elongated and often 6-8 mm. in diameter, dirty tawny-gray but a lighter tawny with prominent wool when young; leaves subulate, terete, cuspidate, reddish tipped, 8-10 mm. long; spicules yellow, numerous, formidable, occupying one half of areole, very unequal, the upper crescentic, compact, first developed tuft 4 mm. long, the others below more scattering towards center of areole 1 cm. long, continuing to increase with age, especially in numbers; spines white and some of the more central larger ones brownish tinged at base, tips yellowish or simply translucent-bonelike, some flattened, angular, twisted, at one or two years very faintly when at all annular, usually no trace of annulation; flowers 6-7 cm. in diameter, yellow with tinge of red in the upper part of ribs making them appear a trifle deep-yellow to orange in the upper part of the ribs and lighter-greenish tinged in center, filaments yellow, greenish at very base, style light-red, very large, sometimes 1 cm. in diameter at the largest point, stigma light green, eight- to ten-parted, buds light olive with a tinge of red in the tip, the outer sepals being mostly recurved in bud; fruit purplish red throughout, about 34 × 50 mm., obovate with broad, nearly flat umbilicus, areoles large, 3-4 mm. in diameter with prominent tawny wool; spicules yellow, about 2 mm. long, fugacious spines, conspicuous, numerous, 4-12 mm.