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**Annual report Missouri Botanical Garden.**

St. Louis :Board of Trustees,1890-1912.

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**v.20 (1909):** <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/15223>

Article/Chapter Title: *Opuntia megacarpa*

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Subject(s): *Opuntia megacarpa*

Page(s): Page 91

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description is a compilation of four sets of field notes supplemented by laboratory studies.—Plates 6, lower figure; 2, f. 6; 13, f. 2 and 12.

***Opuntia megacarpa* sp. nov.**

An ascending, spreading, bushy, open-branched plant 6 to 10 dm. high and 12 to 15 dm. in diameter, the main branches resting on edges of joints and ascending at the extremities, the secondary ones of a joint or two in length growing erectly from them; joints obovate, mostly pointed above, glaucous, turning yellowish-green the second year, commonly 20 by 25 cm. and often widest at middle and tapering each way, often slightly purplish about the areole; areoles subcircular to obovate, 4 to 6 mm. in diameter, tawny brown turning gray in age and its tissues proliferating into a convex gray surface when not covered with spicules; spicules reddish brown in a rather compact, quite equal, crescentic bunch in upper portion of areole, about 3 mm. long but increasing with age in both numbers and length, becoming unequal and even 12 or 13 mm. in length, sometimes filling the entire areole; besides the regular spicules there are a few scattering fugacious bristles all through the areolar area of young joints; spines very long, formidable, often 7 or 8 cm. in length, one or none below to as many as six above, 8 cm. in length, changing successively from white through mottled flesh-color to reddish-brown at base, and in age dull, dirty brown throughout, tips always more or less translucent, bone-like even in age, flattened, twisted, sometimes striate, very faintly when at all annular, and this lasting only through the growing season, at first spreading in all directions but later sloping downward; flowers not seen; fruit dull, purplish red, often with a bleached yellowish appearance, about 38 by 82 mm., rind greenish, streaked with red, and pulp greenish; seeds very large, flattened, irregularly angular, often 8 mm. in diameter but more commonly about 7, with very prominent, more or less wavy, sharp marginal callus about 1.5 mm. wide, prominently notched at hilum.

It is difficult to express satisfactorily the relationship of this species. The spines in color might pass for some forms of *O. phaeacantha*. So might the seeds, so far as everything but size is concerned. The general habit of the plant is that of *Opuntia procumbens*, but, as indicated in the description, it is difficult to admit it even into the same group with either one of these species. Its main characteristics are its spinness, large, long fruits, and exceedingly large flat seeds.

The type specimen is No. 9501 D. G., collected near Banning, California, August 25, 1908. The description given above is a revision of one made in the field when the plant was collected.—Plates 2, f. 3; 13, f. 10.