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Author(s): Griffiths

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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.

long and often ten to twelve in number, yellow or often with brownish zone toward the apex.

This is a common, conspicuous species in the coastal region of California and is likely to be confused on the one hand with *O. occidentalis* Engelm. & Bigel., which has similar joints but is quite a different plant growing farther inland, and on the other hand with *O. littoralis* (Engelm.) B. & R., which has more subcircular joints and more yellowish translucent spines. The species is very interesting inasmuch as it often has many joints or portions of joints practically destitute of spines, while neighboring areoles are normally spiny. The plant has been in cultivation with me since 1904. The spineless characteristic of a portion of the plant body is exceedingly interesting and it was thought for a time that it might prove of economic value, but vegetative propagation made every year or two since that time has failed to produce any marked change in the degree of spinelessness which the plant bears in nature. In four generations grown vegetatively from single joint cuttings no increase in spineless area was observable at either San Antonio or Brownsville.

Several collections have been made of the species between Santa Barbara and Tija Juana but my inventory number 10353 is designated as the type. It was collected at San Pedro, California, September 22, 1911, and is a plant showing very little of the spineless variation.

✓ *Opuntia pyrocarpa* sp. nov.

An ascending-spreading, shrubby species 60 cm. high and having a spread of 2 m. or more when full grown, the main branches commonly resting on their edges at base and ascending at their extremities; joints large, nearly as broad as long, about 22×25 cm. but contracted below into a very short but mostly evident stipitate base, medium green with considerable bloom; areoles long, obovate, not raised after the first season, about 6 mm. in length, brown, enlarging to subcircular in age; spicules brown, in a compact tuft 4 mm. long occupying the upper two-thirds of the areole and filling it in age; spines porrect, divergent, but mostly sloping down in age, one to three, mostly one or two, yellowish distally and gradually darkening to rather bright, light-brown proximally, the lower one-third of the joint unarmed, flattened, twisted, 3-4 cm. long; flowers 8 cm. in diameter,