



Eastern Prickly Pear

Opuntia humifusa

Growing Information

- Sunlight: Full Sun
- Soils: Dry, sandy or rocky soil. Needs good drainage.
- Bloom Time: June-August. Fruit in mid-fall.
- Size: Up to 18inches tall. Usually creeping.

New England's only native cactus! Beautiful showy flowers and delicious, edible purple fruit make this plant a wonderful, unique specimen for rock gardens, roadsides, and barren sand/gravel strips. Great contrast with sparse grasses and herbs. Wild plants are protected in MA.

Garden Companions

Purple Lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*), Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*), Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), Wavy Hairgrass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*)

Nature Benefits

- Fruit for birds, small mammals and people!
- Provides nectar and pollen for native bees.

Native Habitat

Dry, sandy and rocky areas such as dunes and gravel fields.