

Consciousness



& Psychedelics Conference

Practicing Cactusing

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Peyote (Lophophora Williamsii)

- Habitat is northern Mexico and southern Texas
- Grows for 2~6 years before being harvestable, 15 years to be big enough to survive harvest
- Only decriminalized for the Native American Church and in Oakland, CA
- Difficult for beginners to clone

San Pedro (Trichocereus Pachanoi)

- Native to Andes, jungle cactus, grows in many conditions
- Loves water as long as soil drains
- Produces roughly 1 dose per year
- Grows 1-6 feet per year, each foot being a viable clone
- Completely legal to own and grow as an ornamental plant



Traditional Use



- Stone carvings discovered dating 1,300BC
- San Pedro translates to Saint Peter
- Christian symbols were used interchangeably
- Also used as wound dressing; antiseptic

Alternate Use

- May 2019: the alkaloid hordenine (peyocactin) effectively sterilizes at least 18 strains of antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus*
- Effective against *Pseudomonas Aeruginosa*, another common multidrug resistant bacteria
- Insufficient data to confirm relationship to mescaline



Trichocereus (Echinopsis) Genus

The Heavy Hitters:

Trichocereus Pachanoi “San Pedro”
Easiest to grow, large inconsistencies in strength

Trichocereus Peruvianus “Peruvian Torch”
Less hardy, more consistency in alkaloid profile

Trichocereus Bridgesii “Bolivian Torch”
Reliably potent, but prone to root rot

Honorable Mentions

Macrogonus

Scopulicola

Terscheckii

Valida

Werdermannianus

Taquimbalensis

Tacaquirensis

Pallarensis

Santaensis

Puquiensis

Riomizquensis

Uyupampensis

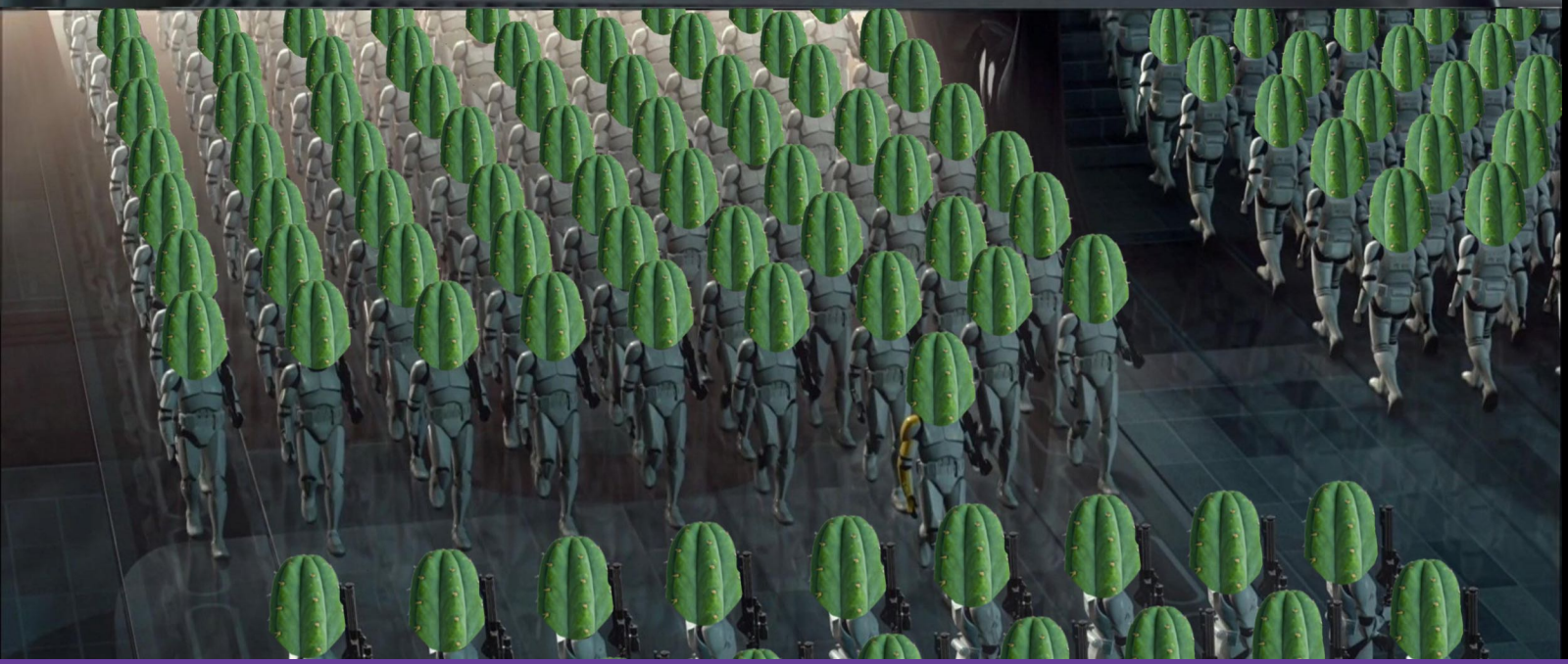
Cuzcoensis

Fulvilanus

Schoenii



Magnificent, aren't they?



- 8-12" is ideal
- Cloning = Exponential Growth
- Wait for the wound to completely scab over
•(2-4 weeks)
- Cut at an angle to avoid scab collecting water



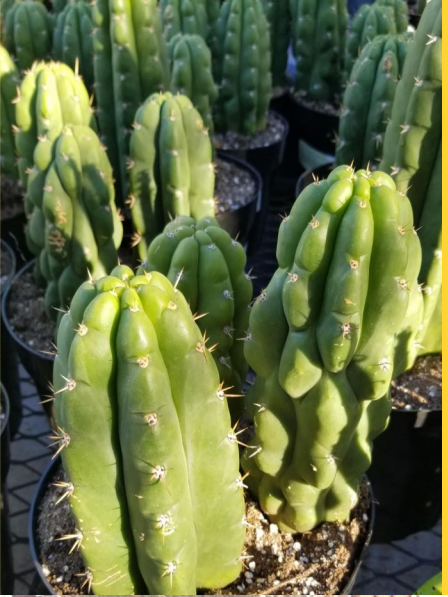
Where to Source Clones

Community Auctions

- Most sellers post often and are well known
- A good way to find named cultivars (Cultivated Variety)
- Cactus cultivar = cannabis "strain"
- Good resource for questions, advice, vendors

A screenshot of a list of Facebook groups. The groups are:

- Trichocereus Buyers, Sellers, Traders Of N. America**: Group · 2 unread posts. Description: "I like Trichos. I want a place where folks on our side of the planet can buy, sell trade or just discuss plants and seeds."
- Trichocereus Named Cultivar Auctions (Established Cultivars ONLY) MP&Co**: Group. Description: "This group is for the auctioning of Trichocereus cactus cutting rooted plants of NAMED VARIETIES ONLY ..."
- Trichocereus Disease and Virology**: Group · 3 unread posts. Description: "Catalog and identify bacterial, fungal and viral diseases of Trichocereus. Develop avoidance and management strategies."
- Trichocereus and Lophophora, and their cultivation and use as religious too**: Group. Description: "I have since psychedelia.dk open as I was with to each modern plant forums, had a great fascination of these two species in..."
- Peruvian Trichocereus Marketplace**: Group. Description: "Peruvian Trichocereus Marketplace"
- Auctions Trichocereus and Echinopsis Worldwide**: Group. Description: "In this group you can auction off your plants and seeds. We allow all kinds of cacti as long as they are not protected (CITES 1). We in..."
- The Trichocereus Community**: Group · 25 unread posts. Description: "The definition of community is 'the condition of sharing or having certain attitudes and interests in common' - therefore, this group ha..."
- Trichocereus & Echinopsis Auctions**: Group · 17 unread posts. Description: "This group is for auctioning ornamental trichocereus, echinopsis, and other collectable cacti and succulents."
- Trichocereus and Echinopsis Growers Worldwide**: Group · 25 unread posts. Description: "Trichocereus, Echinopsis and Lobivia Growers Worldwide! Off-topic like other hybrids, Pseudolobivia, Hildewintera, Lophophora,..."
- The San Pedro / Trichocereus Appreciation Group**: Group · 25 unread posts. Description: "A group for the free and open discussion and appreciation of Trichocereus cacti in all it's aspects and applications. In this group..."
- Trichocereus Community Trade Reviews**: Group · 6 unread posts. Description: "The official Trade Review group for the Trichocereus Community, owned and operated by the admin of the Trichocereus Community."



Sourcing Clones

- Large retailers
- Specialty landscaping companies
- These are usually, but not always, a single fast-growing but low-potency variety
- Not something to be avoided, just to be aware of



Clones

- “Predominant Cultivar” (PC) san pedro grows much faster and can better withstand harsh weather, but contain less alkaloids
- Ideal for grafting stock and outdoor growth



Your clones are very impressive, you must be very proud.

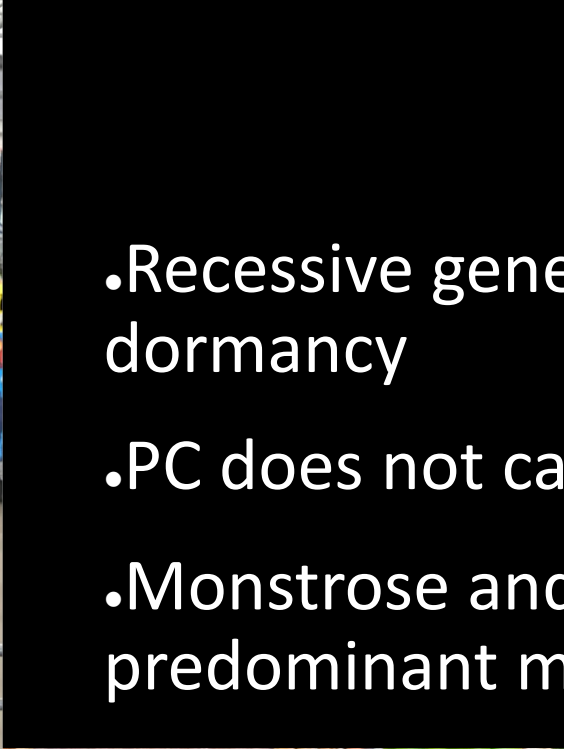
Backeberg 1959 Die Cactaceae



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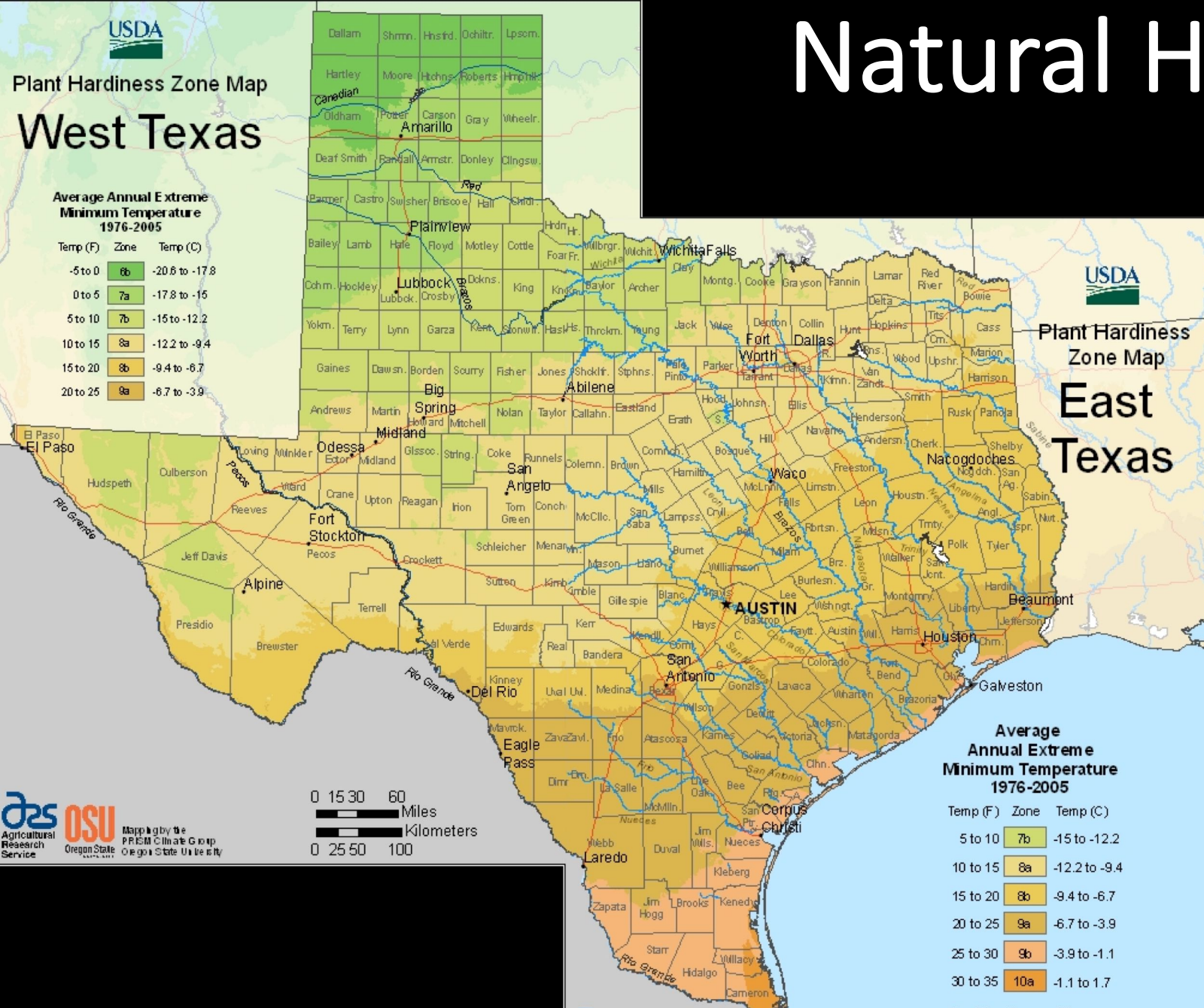




- Recessive genes that can go in and out of dormancy
- PC does not carry mutation genes
- Monstrose and Crested are the predominant mutations



Natural Hardiness Range: 8b – 10



- DFW is in hardiness zone 8a
- .5 degrees too cold for true pachanoi
- PC is hardier than true pachanois, can potentially survive

Increasing Alkaloid Content



The secret ingredient is
crime.

- At this point
- it becomes illegal



San Pedro Preparation & Extraction
Photo by John Allen, © 2004 Erowid.org

Curing (stressing)

- Chemically and mechanically stress the plant to increase alkaloids
- Deprive of light, water
- Add nitrogen fertilizer, this will sap water from the plant
- Grow in stress conditions for 4 weeks, can mechanically cure after cutting





Curing (stressing)

- Mechanically stress by lightly scoring
- Harvest in winter, or refrigerate (do not freeze)
- Be careful not to injure, plant could die

Anatomy



Extraction

- Huachuma (Wachuma) tea
- Acid/Base washing extraction
- D-limonene extraction
- Powder/tar pill
- Gummies
- Chocolates





Huachuma (wachuma) cactus tea

- Remove spines with a knife, rock, brick, or sandpaper
- Remove the waxy outer skin – this layer induces nausea
- Preserve as much green flesh as possible
- Discard woody core, white flesh is irrelevant
- Freeze and thaw 3x to weaken cell walls



Huachuma (wachuma) cactus tea

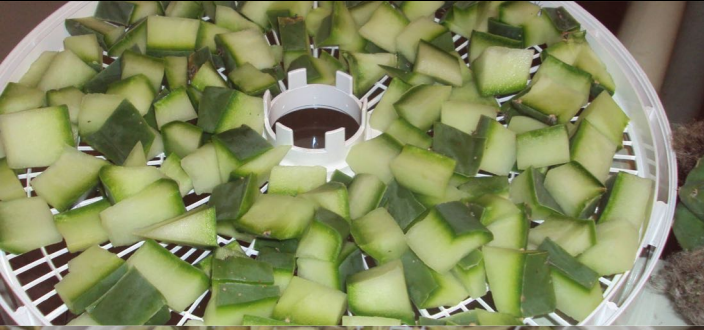
- Blend with water until even consistency
(as little as possible, it'll have to be boiled out in the next step)
- Boil lightly at least 6hrs, stirring every 15 min.
- Continue reducing until tea is enough to consume in one pass
- Strain through a shirt or cloth
- Have a chaser handy



San Pedro Preparation & Extraction
Photo by John Allen, © 2004 Erowid.org



Food-Safe Extract



- Mix 100 grams of dried, powderized cactus (minus core) with 25 grams of calcium hydroxide, 300 ml water to make it feel wet but not watery, mix ~5 minutes
- Add 300 ml of d-limonene, mix well, let sit 3 hours
- If possible, mix everything in a french press so cactus pulp can be mashed after soaking

Food-Safe Extract

- Pour through a filter, set pulp aside
- Add 25 ml of vinegar, mix thoroughly
- Separate the vinegar from the d-limonene using a glass gravy separator or a separatory funnel (vinegar is at bottom, limonene at top).
- NOTE: Separatory funnels are controlled in Texas

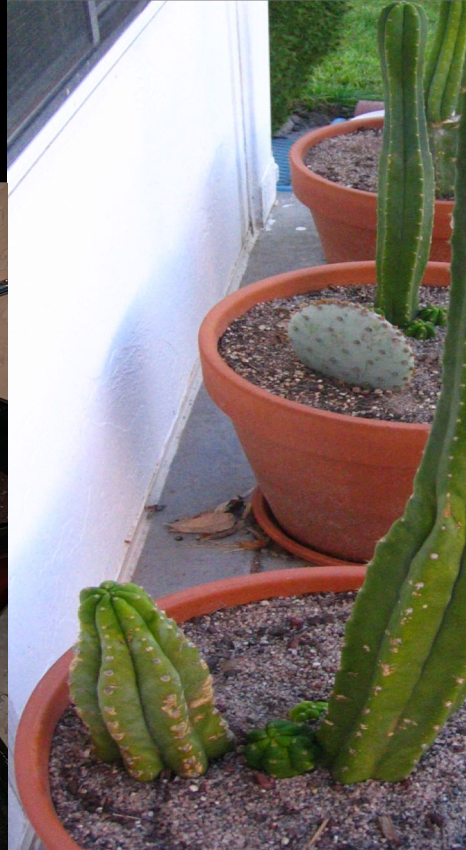
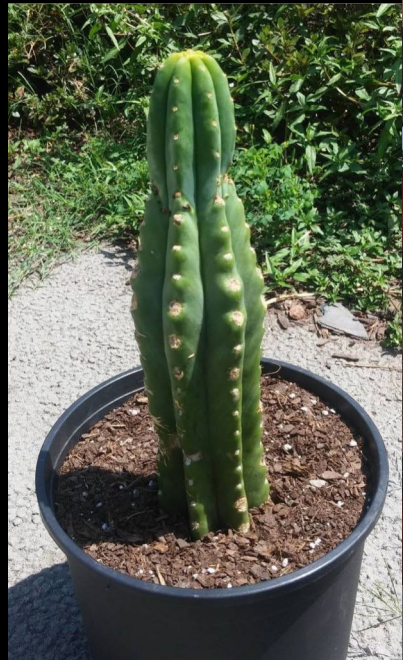


Food-Safe Extract

- Evaporate vinegar at 155F
- Add and separate another 25ml of vinegar at least 2-3 times
- Repeat all previous steps at least twice with the used cactus pulp



Etiolation



- Caused by lack of sunlight during growing season
- Will not “get fatter”
- Does not affect plant's health, but will be a weak point as it grows

Rot



- Bacterial infection caused by the roots not being able to dry out
- Mushy, dark sections
- Immediate surgery is required, rot can kill in 24hrs
- Bacteria can transfer to healthy plants

Grafting

• Useful for rapid propagation and saving the genetic material of a doomed plant

• Essentially creates 2 wounds and uses pressure to ensure they heal together



Grafted in
September 2019

Progress as of
November 2019



Grafting

You will need:

- Rubbing alcohol
- Clean rag
- Gloves
- Sharp knife
- Plastic wrap or pantyhose
- Rubber bands or twine



Grafting

- Discard pups and cut down to before it branched off from the vascular ring



Grafting

- Cut the stock into a pencil shape to prevent pushing off the scion as it dries



Grafting

- Align and offset vascular rings from stock and scion



Grafting

- Secure scion to stock using constant downward pressure
- Do not make airtight seal – this invites mold
- Keep them like this for 2-4 weeks



Grafting

- Slab Grafts use mid sections instead of tips
- Same idea as tip grafts: connect vascular rings
- Useful for rare cultivars



“The pro-psychedelic plant position is clearly an anti-drug position.

Drug dependencies are the result of habitual, unexamined and obsessive behavior; these are precisely the tendencies that psychedelics mitigate.”

- Terence McKenna

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