

Botanical Name: *Cereus hildmannianus*

Common Name: Peruvian Apple Cactus, Queen of the Night, Hedge Cactus



Family: Cactaceae

Native Distribution: Sandy flats with likely origin around Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Argentina

Plant Size: Columnar, basally branching, slow growing up to 30' tall and spreading to about 15'

Flowers: 6" white flowers bloom at night and close around mid-morning, then bear red fruit with red pulp, April - September

Foliage: 4-8" diameter gray- or blue-green stems with 5-8 narrow ribs and areoles 1" apart; can either be spineless or have 7 radial spines around a central spine about ½" long

Site Preferences: Full sun

Landscape Uses: Use as specimen or focal point in xeriscapes.

Other Stuff:

- Hardy to around 20°F.
- Does best with moderate water and monthly application of fertilizer in summer.
- Long cultivated with many different varieties available.
- Prefer lower elevations from 0-2,500 ft.
- Relatively fast grower.