

**Botanical Name:** *Echinopsis huascha* (formerly *Trichocereus huascha*)

**Common Name:** Orange Torch Cactus, Red Torch Cactus, Argentine Hedgehog



**Family:** Cactaceae

**Native Distribution:** Northern deserts of South America on sandy slopes, flats, and rocky hillsides.

**Plant Size:** Up to 3' tall and wide, basally branching and clumping

**Flowers:** Red, violet, or fuchsia 2" - 3" long and wide cup-shaped flowers near the end of the stems from late March through April

**Foliage:** Stems between 2-3" around with 12-18 ribs and whitish-brown areoles, one to two centrals up to 2" long, and 9-11 brownish radials up to 1-1/2" long

**Site Preferences:** Full sun to partial shade in Phoenix

**Landscape Uses:** Use as specimen or accent, or in mass plantings.

**Other Stuff:**

- Also forms with orange and yellow flowers (*E. huascha* var. *macroantha*).
- Prefers well drained soils with little supplemental water in summer, none in winter.
- Hardy to 15°F.
- Flowers open in the evening and last 1-3 days.
- Prefers lower elevations from 0-3,000 ft.
- Up to 1" long, 3/4" diameter red fruit which is edible.