

Botanical Name: *Mammillaria grahamii*

Common Name: Fishhook Pincushion, Nipple Cactus, Arizona Fishhook



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Family: Cactaceae

Native Distribution: Deserts of the Southwest U.S., Sonora, Sinaloa, and Chihuahua on well-drained slopes and flats and rocky bajadas

Plant Size: Solitary or forming mounds, globose to cylindrical, up to 6" tall and 2" in diameter

Flowers: 1.5" wide pink to lavender flowers below the apex from late spring to August

Foliage: Brown and hooked central spine with 15-35 needle-like white straight radials

Site Preference: Full sun to partial shade in Phoenix

Landscape Uses: Use as specimen in small areas, in rock gardens, and in combination with other desert plants.

Other Stuff:

- Some 10 species of *Mammillaria* in Arizona, some of which are protected.
- Popular with collectors.
- Hardy to 10° F; found from 0 to 5,000 ft.
- Needs regular water in summer.
- Blooms several times during the monsoons, lasting about five days each time.
- After flowering, bright red, 1" long fruit emerge.
- Requires well-drained soil.
- Uses nurse plants to protect against frosts, harsh sun, trampling, etc.