



Eastern Prickly Pear

Opuntia humifusa



Photos courtesy of Bill Hendricks

Unique Characteristics

This Ohio native cactus thrives in hot and dry environments in full sun and is also winter hardy. The fleshy foliage of this plant adds a textural element to garden plantings. The readily available pollen and nectar attract a variety of insects, especially honey and bumble bees.

Plant Type:	Perennial Cactus
Native Range:	East of the Rocky Mountains
Sun:	Full sun
Water:	Low
Soil:	Dry, sandy, rocky
pH:	Mildly acidic to mildly alkaline
Height:	2-6 inches
Spread:	Variable-plants spread slowly to form a low ground cover
Wildlife:	Special value to ground nesting bees
Hardiness Zones:	4-9
Bloom Color:	Yellow
Bloom Time:	May, June, July
Fruit:	Purple
Uses:	Attractive in rock gardens and in dry areas where most plants will not survive.

Recommended for landscapes prone to deer damage
(**Note:** although deer may eat new pads)

