

June and Summer Bloomer: Hedge Cactus; Queen-of-the-Night



Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, 6:30 a.m..

Hedge Cactus; Queen-of-the-Night; Spiny Tree Cactus (*Cereus hildmannianus*)

Synonyms (Discarded Names): *Cereus peruvianus*; *C. uruguayanus*

Origin: Argentina; Bolivia; Brazil; Paraguay; Uruguay

Zone: 9b—12 (Minimum 26°F)

Growth Rate: Slow

Typical Height: 12 feet

Leaf Type: None

Light Requirements: High; medium

Drought Tolerance: High

Salt Tolerance: Medium

Soil Requirements: Wide

Nutritional Requirements: Low

Plant Type: Succulent perennial

Flower Color: White

Flowering Season: Late spring; summer

Propagation: Cuttings; seeds

Common Uses: Specimen plant; edible fruit; rock gardens

Human Hazards: Spiny

Major Problems: None





Fort Myers, Florida, June 14th

There are numerous cultivated cacti grown throughout south Florida. *C. hildmannianus* is one of several night-blooming cacti. As it ages, this spiny succulent branches freely from the base to form a large clump. The branches are columnar, 4-8 inches in diameter with 5-8 ribs. The spines are about 2 to 3 inches long and increase in numbers as the plant ages. The flowers become fully opened under the cover of night. By late morning most will have withered on the plant and remain there for several days. Not all buds open at once, so the blooming period can last over four or five nights and repeat a month or so later.

Reference

Broschat, T., and Meerow Alan. 2001. *Betrock's Reference Guide to Florida Landscape Plants*. Betrock Information Systems, Inc.

[Click here](#) for flowering tree fact sheets.

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