



Etymology

From Greek 'rhodos' meaning rose-red and 'anthers' for anthers, referring to the red colour of the anthers revealed when the pollen is shed.

Other Names

Gymnocalycium mazomenae var. *rhodantherum* (Bödeker) Backeberg

Synonym

G. guanchinense Schütz in *Zpravy Československé Kaktusarské Společnosti* 2: p.21 (1947)

First description of *Gymnocalycium guanchinense* Dr. Schütz spec. nov. (*Gymn. sp. Guanchin. n.n. Fric Catalogus Kaktusarum* c. 1980)

Body flattened-globular; 10cm diameter, brown-abrusse. Ribs c. 18, low, straight, separated into sharp buccae. Areoles elongated,



Fig.426 *G. rhodantherum* (coloradense), GC957.02 in habitat east of Los Cabaños, Prov. La Rioja, Argentina

6cm long, 2cm wide, covered with short mostly greyish-white hair. Radial spines 7-8, 1 curved dema, 20cm long, 8 each side of the areole, spreading, c. 25cm long, 2 top spines, short or occasionally absent, all curved, barbed-like, perous on the top face, central spine curved upwards, c. 25cm long, sometimes absent.

Flowers c. 60cm long and diameter. Ovary 20cm long, greenish-blue, few scales also greenish-blue, edges pink, outer petals oblong, rounded, pink, blue-green at the bottom with a pinkish edge, inner petals lanceolate, tapering, pink, with an intensely coloured red-stripe, petals with a silky sheen. Ovary short, with a 8-lobed yellow stigma, many stamens, filaments red to blood-red, anthers pink, pollen yellow.

Fruit thin, oval, blue-green, when ripe splitting longitudinally. Seed, many, small, dull black, elongated, semi-globose, general appearance is flattened, testa somewhat waxy.

Habitat: Cordillera, Argentina, near the Bado Cabaños
Neotype: Argentina, Prov. La Rioja, Cuesta Miranda near km.516, between El Siziñano and Las Higueras, leg. H. Till 87-88.639, 20.10.1987, 1800m.s.m. (Neotype BA) Designated by H. Till (2004b)

Gymnocalycium acorrigatum Lambert in *Succulenta* 67(1): pp 4-7 (1988)

First Description of *G. acorrigatum* spec. nov.

Body woody, flattened globular, c. 46cm high, 76cm diameter, dull green to grey-green, crown somewhat sulcate, with red, covered with spines from the neighbouring areoles, with a top-rod.

Ribs 9-10, straight or slightly curved, with distinct vertical grooves, buccae rounded, running into each other, without cross-ribs and ribs, except on very young plants.

Areoles round, 6-8cm diameter, at first with white wool, later red becoming black, 17-20cm apart.

Radial spines 7-8, spreading out to 8-4 pairs, with a single spine pointing dema, strong, curved, interlaced with each other, sharp, up to 3cm long, young spines chestnut-brown, yellowish at the base, later greyish-white with a brownish point. Central

Fig.424 Habitat of *G. rhodantherum* (coloradense), GC957.02 which grows on the granite rocks in the foreground, Prov. La Rioja, Argentina



Fig.428 Habitat of *G. rhodantherum*, GC959.02 east of Cuesta Miranda, Prov. La Rioja, Argentina

spines, 1-2, strong curved upwards, up to 36cm long the same colour as the radial spines.

Flowers from young areoles to the crown, funnel-shaped, c. 66cm long, 80cm diameter. Pericarp c. 16cm long, 10cm diameter, leaf green, sometimes with a purple bloom, scales rounded, 6cm wide, 3-4cm high, white edged with a pink tip, all scales up to the petals are the same, outer petals spatulate, c. 30cm long, 7cm wide, pinkish-white with a brownish-green central stripe, inner petals light pink with a carmine-pink central stripe, spatulate with a point, c. 34cm long, 6.6cm wide, throat a deep carmine colour.

Scales, primary scales are inserted around the style, secondary scales are inserted over the whole of the receptacle wall, curved to towards the style, the topmost scales overhang the style, white, red at the base, anthers yellow, style greenish-white, 12cm long, 1.7cm diameter; (up to 20cm long with the stigma) stigma light yellow with 5 lobes.

Fruit blunt apically-obovate, bottle green, scales lined pink with a fine white edge, 23cm long, 16cm wide. Seeds pet-shaped, dull red-brown, 1.2-1.5cm high, 0.2-1.0cm wide and thick, testa covered with warts, set in a very ordered pattern, warts round to oval, not flattened, but elongated oval, curved, slightly sulcate, areolate area somewhat corky, the edge covered with a yellowish-white spongy tissue, not covered with a bluish tissue and covering. Seeds belong to the genus *Microsemineum* (Bödeker), section *Microsem* (Barbosa).

Habitat: San Agustín de Valle Fertil, Sierra del Valle Fertil, Prov. San Juan, Argentina, 3600m.

Botanical: J.169 (Barbosa Universitäts Herbarium)

Commentary on *G. acorrigatum*

For some time this taxon was considered to be a westerly subspecies of *G. castellanosii*. The formal combination was made in *Flora de San Juan II*: p.178 (2003) as *Gymnocalycium castellanosii* subsp. *acorrigatum* (Lambert) Kiesling & Metzger. I repeated the combination, by mistake, in CSI 20 (2005) without realising that it had already been

made. However, as pointed out by Papsch (2008), it does not have the characteristic seeds of *G. castellanosii* so does not belong in its synonymy.

It was originally described as growing under thorny bushes on stony slopes near the edge of the lake at San Agustín de Valle Fertil where I have seen it. More recent observations suggest that it occurs along the Sierra del Valle Fertil and further south in the Sierra de la Huerta where I saw it growing on the hills behind the village of Las Chacras. These sierras run north-south and lie to the south of the main distribution of *G. rhodantherum*.

Gymnocalycium coloradense Berger in *Gymnocalycium* 19(4): pp 693-695 (2006).



Fig.427 *G. rhodantherum* (guanchinense), ARU 228 from the Cuesta Miranda, Prov. La Rioja, Argentina