



## Emerald Goddess Gardens [emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

- Botanical Name: *Hylocereus undatus*
- Common Name: Dragon Fruit or Pitahaya
- Plant Family: Cactaceae
- Mature Size: 10 – 20 ft
- Growth Habit: Leggy Cactus
- Bloom Color: Greenish White
- Bloom Form: Large, Open Multipetaled
- Bloom Time: 3 to 4 Times Annually
- Water Needs: Minimal
- Light Needs: Full Sun
- Recommended Zones: 10, 11, (9 with cold protection)
- Key Features: Unique twisting growth habit
- Suggested Uses: Fruit Production
- Growers Notes : Has semi-hard spines



***Hylocereus undatus*** or **Dragon Fruit** is a unique and unusual cactus like succulent that produces a large showy greenish white night blooming fragrant flower that is followed by a red cases, edible, mildly sweet fruit. It is native to Central and South America, and are cultivated in many warm climate areas. The common name comes from the large scale like skin of the fruit.

The Dragon Fruit plant grows in long, pendulous succulent branches lines with moderately fine, soft spines. The growth habit is both lateral and upright. Dragon Fruit Plants are often anchored to sturdy supports and grown in small, upright tree form. The blooms are large saucer size multi petaled cups in shades of green tinted creamy white to pale ivory yellow. The flowers are large, lush, fragrant and only open at night.

Fruit begins to set about 30 to 50 days after flowering, and a mature plant may flower several times yearly.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants is not generally recommended, so for the best results with your new Dragonfruit plant, repot and allow it to grow larger before setting out into the landscape. When the new pot has filled with roots and is ready to be planted, here are a few hints for successful growing outdoors within the recommended USDA Zone Range.

- Plant in well draining soil.
- Locate in full sun
- Provide supplemental irrigation until well established.
- Prune lightly after flowering to encourage branching and shape.
- Protect from frost and freeze until very well established.

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at [service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com](mailto:service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at [emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

## Care of Your Cactus or Succulent Plant

Here are a few basic guidelines for handling and caring for your new plant:

Direct planting of 4 inch starter sizes plants or plugs directly into the landscape is not recommended, with a few exceptions. So, for the best results with your new plant we suggest that it be re-potted into a larger pot and allowed to grow larger until the new pot is filled with roots before setting out.

- Immediately re-pot the new plant into a 6 to 10 inch diameter (a 6 inch pot is the recommended size for starter plugs) that can drain easily and thoroughly.
- Use a good quality commercial specialty cacti and succulent potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. DO NOT use hot, all chemical fertilizers like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum light all day.
- Take care not to over water. The primary cause of problems with cacti and succulents is becoming saturated with too much water.
- Moisture crystals can be recycled for other plants if desired, but do not use them for cacti and succulents.
- Be sure excess irrigation water can drain out of the pot quickly and completely. Do not allow the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water.

Most cacti and succulents can be grown as potted plants indefinitely, and can be successfully wintered over indoors in colder climates, so long as they are moved indoors well ahead of temps into the upper 30's (F), are maintained in warm environment (minimum 40 degrees F) with adequate, full spectrum light, air circulation, and are not over crowded or over watered.

For quick answers to any growing or planting questions, just email us at [service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com](mailto:service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

You can check your USDA Zone by visiting our website at [emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

*Toxicity information generally known in the horticultural trade and gardening circles, if known, is provided for reference purposes only. Medical and/or Horticulture experts in the field of Plant Toxicology should be consulted for specific and reliable information.*

*This plant is intended for ornamental, decorative use only. Emerald Goddess Gardens tm does not recommend, endorse, or offer the product for any other intended use.*