

Mammillaria mainiae

Counterclockwise Nipple Cactus

Family: Cactaceae
Genus: Mammillaria
Species: mainiae
Height: 5-12cm tall, 4-7cm diameter.
Blooms: June to July
Elevation: 2,000 to 4,000ft, Lower Sonoran Zone.
Habitat: Desert plains and hillsides, usually in gravelly soil. More often on plains with Ironwood and Mesquite.
Flowers: 10-20mm long, to 25mm wide.
Fruit: Ovoid red capsule, 6-8mm long, 3-5mm wide.
Range: Santa Cruz and Pima counties. Generally southwestern Arizona to Sinaloa, Mexico. Uncommon in Arizona.
Notes: Plant is distinguishable by way of the hooked needles that face counterclockwise, hence the name. **This is a rare and endangered plant. Location of photo will not be disclosed.**



References

1. Kearney, T.H. and R.H. Peebles, *Arizona Flora* (revised edition), University of California Press, 1960, pp. 577-578.
2. Shreve, F. and I.L. Wiggins, *Vegetation and Flora of the Sonoran Desert*, Stanford University, 1964, p. 1028.

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