

flowers and then dies. We have a larger century that lives in the upper basin that has the same lifestyle. So this is the Lecheguilla and grows up and down the roads in the park and it is blooming, most are dead. These stalks are dead and in fact they are last years stalks. and have not yet fallen over. The plant is not edible to us but the peccories in the park will push aside the leaves and pull up the individual leaves by their roots and then eat the basal parts because they are moist and succulent. They are like asparagus and are full of moisture and sugar. At the bottom of this plant is a cortisone like substance, but more important has been the use by Indians for sandals, rope and other materials from the fibers in the leaves. Some people say the century plant is a combination of artichokes and an asparagus root. As in an artichoke the terminal part of the plant is only eaten. I could not survive on eating the Lecheguilla only. We know the Indians lived on desert plants but we only know of their successes, not their failures. I am not an advocate of walking thru the desert and eating the desert plants as most of them are poison during part of their development. Even though plants might not kill you they would make you sick. We are not used to this kind of food but the more refined food of ^{the} present day. The main thing with the deer. We feed them marshmallows, cookies, candy and as a result they become ill. and shorten their life span. What are these two. They are cactus, they are spiny and are prickly pear cactus to be more specific. These two are different. One has spines and one is spineless. What part of the cactus is the spine. It is the leaf. Cactuses are probably the best adapted plants. The first thing they have found is that it is a disadvantage to have a large leaf, so what the plant has done is to reduce its leaf size to a spine. The pads is the stem of the plant and it is this portion that photosynthesizes the energy for the plant. Root system is very close to the surface of the ground, and gets more moisture from rains that move off the surface of the ground rapidly. This plant has gone a step further and has no spines. The brown dots are crowded with short spines that are much more difficult to remove than large spines. The best way to remove them is by putting a layer of rubber cement, wax if temperature is not too great, and masking or duct tape. Cattle eat the spineless prickly pear and the small thorns get