

COMMON NAME:
STAGHORN CHOLLA

SCIENTIFIC NAME:
OPUNTIA VERSICOLOR

ALSO CALLED: TREE CACTUS AND DEERHORN CHOLLA

FLOWER COLOR: VARIED BUT USUALLY RED
FLOWER ARRANGEMENT: MULTIPLE ON ENDS OF ARMS
FLOWERING TIME: MAY TO JULY
NORMAL SIZE: 3' TO 6'

OTHER LOOKALIKES: BUCKHORN CHOLLA, CANE CHOLLA,

NORMAL ELEVATION: 2000' TO 3500'

HABITATION: DRY PLAINS

ABUNDANCE: DESERTS NEAR TUCSON

NOTABLE DETAILS: A TUBULAR SHAPED CACTUS WITH THORNS ON BUMPS ALONG THE STEMS. THIS PARTICULAR CHOLLA HAS BUMPS UP TO 1/2" LONG AND ARE SPARSELY THORNED MUCH LESS THAN MOST OTHERS. THE BUMPS OR TUBERCLES ARE MORE PRONOUNCED IN POINTEDNESS.

SPECIAL INTEREST: THIS TYPE OF CACTUS REPRESENTS WHAT IS CALLED A ROUND-STEMMED CACTUS. NORMALLY, THEY ARE CALLED CHOLLAS. THEY ALSO ARE CALLED CANE CACTI PERHAPS BECAUSE THEY ARE NEARLY THE SIZE OF A WALKING CANE.