

COMMON NAME:
GILA MANROOT

SCIENTIFIC NAME:
MARAHA GILENSIS

ALSO CALLED: MOCK CUCUMBER, BUR CUCUMBER, WILD CUCUMBER, AND BIG-ROOT

FLOWER COLOR: WHITE

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT: IN CLUSTERS ALL ALONG WINE

FLOWERING TIME: MARCH TO APRIL

LEAVES: SHARP FIVE POINT LARGE LEAVES

OBSERVABLE FRUIT: LARGE ROUND BALLS WITH PRICKLES COVERING IT

NORMAL SIZE: CLIMBING VINE COVERING WHATEVER IT TOUCHES

NOT EDIBLE: VERY BITTER

NORMAL ELEVATION: BELOW 5000'

HABITATION: NEAR ROADSIDES AND DRY WASHES

ABUNDANCE: COMMON

NOTABLE DETAILS: VINES WITH MANY FIVE POINT LARGE LEAVES AND BEARING SMALL WHITE FLOWERS, BECOMING A ROUND BARBED FRUIT BALL WHICH IS NOT EDIBLE AND A LARGE TUBER WHICH IS POISONOUS.

SPECIAL INTEREST: ROOT IS SO ENORMOUS IT MAY AMOUNT TO 50 POUNDS.