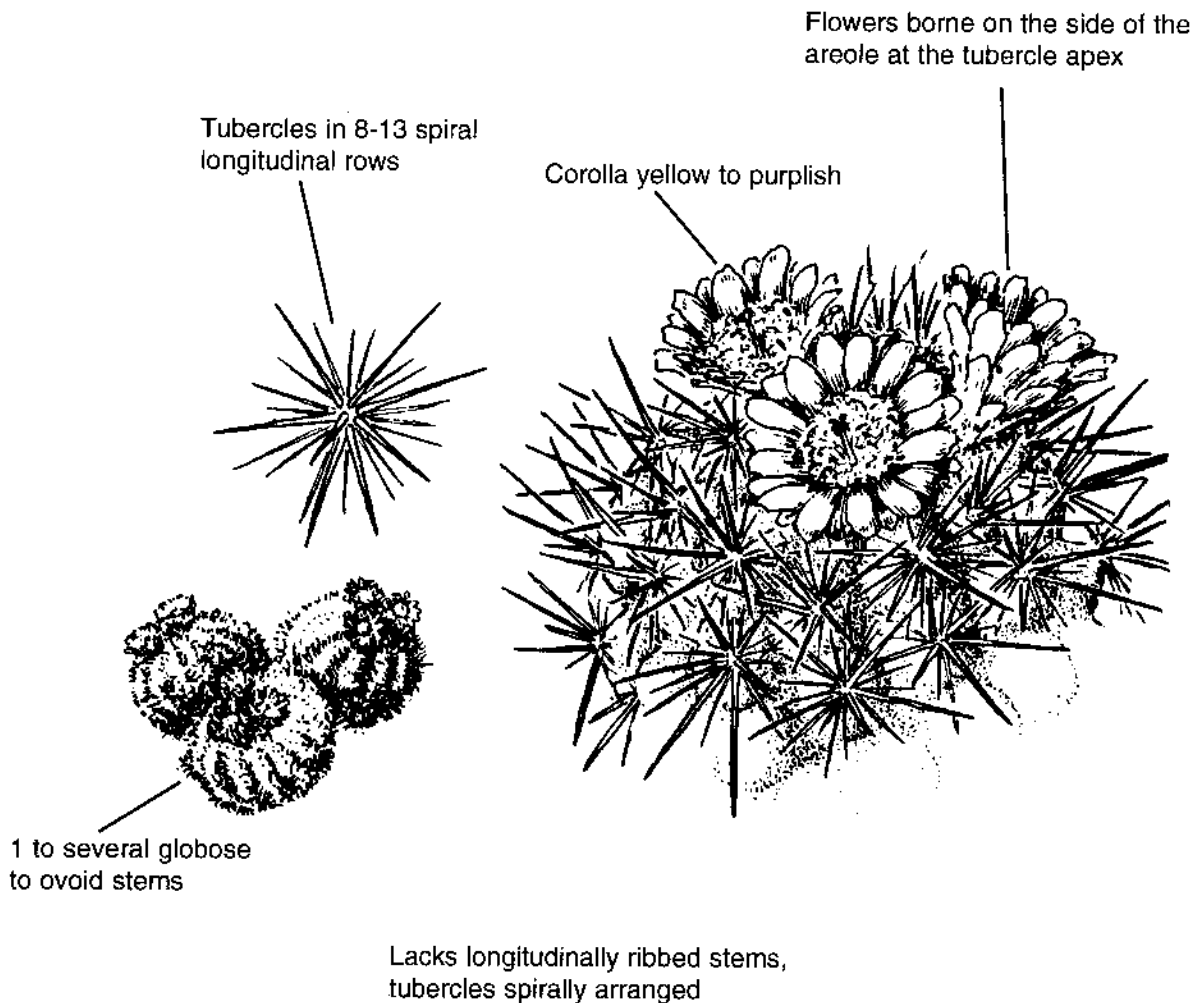


Simpson's hedgehog cactus

Pediocactus simpsonii var. *robustior*



Scientific Name: *Pediocactus simpsonii* (Engelm.) Britt. & Rose var. *robustior* Coult

Bibliographic Reference: Britton & Rose, 1896. U.S. Natl. Herb. 3: 377.

Family (Common Name): Cactaceae (Cactus Family)

Common Name: Simpson's hedgehog cactus

Synonyms: None

Idaho Native Plant Society Category: State Monitor

Natural Heritage Program Rank: S3

Distribution: Cassia, Idaho, Nez Perce, Oneida, Lemhi, Owyhee and Twin Falls counties, Idaho; s and e to Nevada, Wyoming, Utah and Colorado.

Habitat: Rocky or sandy benches and canyon rims in low sagebrush, bud sage, and Sandberg bluegrass communities; often associated with *Erigeron bloomeri*, from 900-1800 m elevation.

Phenology: May through July.

Look-alikes: The only *Pediocactus* in S Idaho. However, may be confused with species in the genus *Coryphantha*, which differs in lacking the longitudinally ribbed stems, and with the flowers borne on the side of the tubercle at the base of a groove connecting the areole.



Closeup of *Pediocactus simpsonii* var. *robustior* Steve Caicco

