



## Carnegia gigantea

## **SAGUARO**

The Saguaro defines the Sonoran Desert. They grow slowly from the tissue ant the very top of a wide, ribbed spiny thick column. In the wild, seeds germinate under the shade of shrubs or trees, which are called nurse plants. These nurse plants provide protection from the elements until they are sizeable to grow past their helpful nurses, eventually out competing them for water and space. They bloom at the tops of their arms when mature enough with white funnel-form blooms, usually in clusters. The bat pollinated blooms give way to large, succulent red oval fruits. Some supplemental water is helpful to establish young saguaros during the summer months, but little to no water is needed once mature.





## **DESCRIPTION**













