

# AquaCacteen<sup>TM</sup>

## Sourcing



#### Location

The Nopal cactus we use to source AquaCacteen™ is grown on a family farm in the state of Puebla, Mexico located approximately 1900 meters above sea level. This has been a family farm for generations. It provides fair wages to local rural residents that help maintain and harvest the Nopal year-round.





#### Opuntia ficus-indica

Opuntia ficus-indica is a succulent cactus originally native to Mexico and is also known as prickly pear, nopal or Indian fig.

Like other cactuses, it has adapted to extreme environmental conditions. The "leaves" of the plant are actually modified stem segments, often called pads or cladodes and can store large amounts of water.

The original leaves have been transformed to spines, the cuticle is thickened and coated with a waxy layer to help prevent water loss and to shield the stems from intense sunlight. Besides, a biochemical protection against radicals generated by solar radiation is provided by flavonoids.







#### Photo credits

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### Organic and fair trade

Investment in the farm enabled it to obtain **organic** certification in 2014.

The fair trade statement confirms that

- Garuda and its suppliers use responsible trading and labor practices
- Garuda and its suppliers maintain responsible relations with local communities involved in farming & production
- Garuda and its suppliers adhere to environmentally responsible practices.

Therefore, the raw material for AquaCacteen™ can be considered as compliant with Fair Trade principles.















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### Thank you

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