

An Experiment in Food Sovereignty: Introducing Indigenous Knowledge from Mexico to the Sinai

**Introducing the Cactus
as a new Source of Food to Egypt?**

El Arish, Sinai, 30 November 2006
© Photos by Hans Guenter Brauch

The Role of Genebanks in Promoting the Use of Agricultural Biodiversity to Combat Desertification

from 27 November – 7 December 2006

Organised by:

Desert Research Centre (DRC), Cairo, Egypt
in cooperation with Biodiversity International,
Rome

**in Cairo, and El Arish, Sinai, Egypt
27 November – 7 December 2006**

Applying Indigenous Knowledge from Mexico in Egypt, 30 Nov. 2006 by Ursula Oswald Spring, UNAM/CRIM Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico

- Cactus: An unused food source in Egypt
- Collecting the cactus near the DRC in El Arish
- Fruits of the cactus: A delicacy in Europe
- Preparing the cactus in the kitchen of the DRC
 - As a vegetable, salad or as a sweet (desert)
 - Observation by DRC specialists
- Eating the Cactus: Vegetable and Salad
 - Tasting by the the president of DRC
 - Testing by a Journalist from Cairo

Collecting the Cactus near the DRC in El Arish



Prof. Dr. Oswald Spring from UNAM/CRIM, Curnavaca, Mexico;
former Minister of Ecological Development in Morelos, Mexico
and colleagues of the Desert Research Centre in the fields

Collecting the Cactus near the DRC in El Arish



**Prof. Oswald and colleagues form the
DRC station in El Arish, A journalist
from Cairo is observing the experiment**

Preparing the Cactus in the kitchen of the DRC, El Arish, Sinai



Preparing the Cactus in the kitchen of the DRC, El Arish, Sinai



Preparing the Cactus in the kitchen of the DRC, El Arish, Sinai



Eating the Cactus: Vegetable and Salad Tasting by the the president of DRC



- Prof. Dr. Oswald Spring presents the cactus vegetable and
- Prof. Dr. Ismail, DRC President is tasting the new dish in Egypt

Eating the Cactus: Vegetable and Salad Tasting by a Journalist from Cairo



A member of the local Bedouim community and a journalist from Cairo enjoy the Cactus vegetable

