Special thanks to our Sponsors:

Thank you for helping us better understand how we impact our plants and pollinators!

resources & more information

for community members:

www.pollinator.org
www.citizenscience.org

for educators:

www.fws.gov/pollinators
pollinator.org/education.htm

for researchers:

Kim Franklin
kfranklin@desertmuseum.org

www.pollinator.org
www.citizenscience.org
for educators:
www.fws.gov/pollinators
pollinator.org/education.htm
for researchers:

Kim Franklin
kfranklin@desertmuseum.org

2021 N. Kinney Road
Tucson, AZ 85743
www.desertmuseum.org
(520) 883-1380
How do I measure the plant?
A yardstick works well. Try to measure from the base to the crown. Measure the plant’s total height, even if that means you have to hold the yardstick at a slant.

How do I pick a fruit?
Luckily, barrel cactus fruits don’t have spines, but there are spines around them. Wait until the fruits are bright yellow, when they come off most easily. Try not to pick a fruit right at the center or edge of the crown—aim for in between to get an average size.

How do I count the seeds?
The seeds are easiest to count when they are dry. Cut the fruit open and leave it somewhere to dry, like on a windowsill. Once it’s dry, shake the seeds out into a bowl or cup. Count a small pile at a time so you can keep track.

Submitting your data:
Data entry is easy! Find the datasheet at: www.desertmuseum.org/hotspots. Type in the location of the barrel cactus (either the GPS location or as much detail as you can), its approximate height, and the number of seeds. Finally, check the box for whether the plant is watered (if you know the answer).

How can I help?
1. Find a barrel cactus
2. Measure the plant
3. Pick a fruit
4. Count the seeds
5. Send us the seed count, the plant location, and the plant height.

Species: fishhook barrel cactus
Slightly curved spines shaped like fishhooks
Shin-to-shoulder high plant