



United States Department of Agriculture

List of Scientific Names of Admissible Dragon Fruit

The botanical nomenclature of dragon fruit is unsettled. This is partly due to its morphological similarities to and ability to hybridize with other *Hylocereus* spp. and cactus genera. In the Eastern hemisphere, the fruit is typically known as “dragon fruit,” and in the Western hemisphere, the fruit is typically known as “pitahaya” or “pitaya.” Numerous synonyms and frequent misidentifications exist for the commodity. Table 1 lists the fruit of cacti that were analyzed in a pest risk analysis (PRA) and are referred to as “dragon fruit,” “pitahaya,” or “pitaya.”

Table 1 Cacti fruit—Admissible Species

Cactus Species:	Synonym(s)/Alternate Nomenclature:
<i>Acanthocereus occidentalis</i>	None
<i>Acanthocereus tetragonus</i>	<i>Acanthocereus colombianus</i> , <i>A. floridanus</i> , <i>A. pentagonus</i> , <i>A. pitajaya</i> , <i>Cactus pentagonus</i> , <i>C. pitajaya</i> , <i>C. tetragonus</i> , <i>Cereus pentagonus</i> , <i>C. pitajaya</i>
<i>Cereus hildmannianus</i>	<i>Cactus peruvianus</i> , <i>Cereus uruguayanus</i>
<i>Echinocereus conglomeratus</i>	<i>Cereus conglomeratus</i>
<i>Echinocereus stramineus</i>	<i>Cereus stramineus</i> , <i>Echinocereus enneacanthus</i> var. <i>stramineus</i>
<i>Escontria chiotilla</i>	<i>Cereus chiotilla</i>
<i>Hylocereus costaricensis</i>	<i>Cereus trigonus</i> var. <i>costaricensis</i>
<i>Hylocereus megalanthus</i>	<i>Cereus megalanthus</i>
<i>Hylocereus ocamponis</i>	<i>Cereus ocamponis</i>
<i>Hylocereus polyrhizus</i>	<i>Cereus polyrhizus</i> , <i>H. lemairei</i>
<i>Hylocereus undatus</i>	<i>Cactus triangularis</i> , <i>Cereus triangularis</i> , <i>C. tricostatus</i> , <i>C. trigonus</i> var. <i>guatemalensis</i> , <i>C. undatus</i> , <i>Hylocereus guatemalensis</i> , <i>H. tricostatus</i>
<i>Myrtillocactus geometrizans</i>	<i>Cereus geometrizans</i>
<i>Stenocereus griseus</i>	<i>Cereus griseus</i>
<i>Stenocereus gummosus</i>	<i>Cereus gummosus</i>
<i>Stenocereus queretaroensis</i>	<i>Cereus queretaroensis</i>
<i>Stenocereus stellatus</i>	<i>Cereus stellatus</i>
<i>Stenocereus thurberi</i>	<i>Cereus thurberi</i> , <i>Lemairocereus thurberi</i> , <i>Marshallocereus thurberi</i> , <i>Pachycereus thurberi</i>