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Pelargonium echinatum

[Synonyms : *Geranospermum echinatum*, *Geranium aculeatum*, *Geranium echinatum*, *Pelargonium aculeatum*, *Pelargonium armatum*, *Pelargonium hamatum*, *Pelargonium reniforme*]

CACTUS GERANIUM is a succulent subshrub. Native to western South Africa it has prominently spiny and fleshy, grey stems with long-stalked, greyish-green leaves and dark red-blotched, white to pink or purple flowers.

It is also known as Prickly-stalked geranium, Sweetheart geranium, and Umckaloabo (English, German).

Echinatum is derived from Greek *echino-* (hedgehog, sea urchin) component meaning ‘hedgehog-like or covered with prickles’.

Apparently the common name Sweetheart geranium reflects the heart-like blotches on the flowers’ upper petals