

## ATHASIAN FRUITS

- BERGO** The bergo fruit grows on a tree. The bergo is pear-shaped and has red skin covered in soft green spines. The interior is yellow and contains many tiny seeds; the seeds are about the size of a sesame seed and are edible. The taste of a bergo is mildly sweet and the texture is crunchy due to the seeds.
- BERRIES, GENERAL** Various berries gathered from the Crescent Forest are part of the Gulgan staple diet, including blackberries, blueberries, mulberries, gojiberries, and raspberries.
- Berry, Gyava** Gyava berries grow on short, creeping shrubs that resemble vines. The slender, wiry stems have small, sharp leaves. The tiny berries are less than a quarter-inch in diameter and are bright red when ripe. The gyava berries are sweet but have a strongly acidic taste. The berries can be crushed for fruit juice or made into dyes.
- Berry, Scuppernong** The scuppernong is a hearty, rough-skinned silver berry that grows on small shrubs.
- Berry, Thornberry** Thornberries are tiny orange berries about a quarter of an inch in diameter. They are soft and juicy. Unfortunately, harvesting thornberries is very difficult as the thornberry bush has long, thin leaves studded with sharp thorns. The berries also have a sharp thorn on their underside that must be removed before they are consumed. Because of the difficulties in harvesting the berries, many farmers crush the berries whole to make juice and then later filter out the thorns. Thornberries are most commonly sold in the arena in Tyr.
- BULIS** The bulis berry has a hairy, thick brown skin that makes it difficult to peel. The small sweet purple center can be consumed or made into wine. The plentiful wine has a sickeningly sweet flavor and is often mixed with water. Great quantities of this beverage are consumed in Tyr.
- CABRA MELON** The fruit of this melon plant is thick-husked and full of succulent meat. Cabra melons are thick-husked fruits that have a succulent taste. The inside of a cabra melon has wedges similar to an orange.
- CACTUS, GENERAL** Many variety of cacti can be eaten. Cacti are most often eaten raw, although some varieties are cooked. Honey-boiled cactus is served in the elven market in Nibenay.
- Cactus, Faro** A twisted cactus grown as a cash crop by many of Tyr's nobles, faro grows as tall as a man, with a handful of scaly

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stems that rise into a tangled crown of needle-covered boughs. Faro trees blossom once a decade. Each piece of the sweet delicious fruit is worth as much as the tree itself. The faro needles can be harvested several times every year, and command a high price per bushel. The needles can be ground into a fine, nutritious flour that is often used in baking.

**Cactus, Grall** A squat thorny cactus that does best in rocky areas, grall is harvested for its fruit. It produces 2-3 bulbous fruit per plant every three months. These fruit can be eaten raw (they have a strong bitter taste), but more often they are fermented for use in a strong local brew, "cactus blue" ale.

**Cactus, Prickly Pear** The prickly pear is a red fruit from the prickly pear cactus. It is sweet, but care must be used when peeling the skin because of the hundreds of tiny needle-like spines. The prickly pear is a popular choice to make candy or other snacks involving fruit pulp.

**Cactus, Red** Red cactus is a round succulent plant with spiny thorns, about the size of a man's head. The cactus is typically used to harvest red cactus grubs, but the fruit of the cactus can also be eaten.

**Cactus, Spider** Inside of a spider cactus is one gallon of a honey-like liquid similar in consistency to an erdlu egg. Each cactus contains one gallon of the liquid, which can be substituted for either food or water. One gallon can replace one gallon of water or provide nourishment for four meals.

**COPRA** Copra is dried coconut. The city of Gulg exports a lot of copra throughout the Tablelands.

**DATE** Dates are a delicacy that are enjoyed as a snack or appetizer by the upper classes. For the desert traveler, dates can be a life saver, as dates grow on palm trees that often surround an oasis.

**FIG** Figs are a pleasant snack for those who can afford it. The city of Nibenay cultivates fig groves in the Crescent Forest that provide most of the figs available in the cities of the Tyr region. Fig trees often surround an oasis in the desert, providing much needed nourishment to the desert traveler.

**GEJA** Geja is a soft-skinned fruit which is only ripe for a few days each year. It is sweet and delicate. Geja can be dried in the

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sun, and retains its sweetness when dried. This plant produces a soft-skinned fruit. The fruit, although sweet and delicate, is ripe for only a few days a year and often is eaten by insects.

- GOURD** The two most common gourds found in the Tablelands are the tulifer, the cucurbata, and the baobab.
- Gourd, Baobab The gigantic baobab tree produces a gourd-like fruit that is edible. Some species have a sour taste.
- Gourd, Cucurbata The cucurbata gourd is large, over a foot in diameter. It is reddish-brown in color, with a warty exterior. The white flesh is crunchy and watery but becomes bitter as it ripens. When fully ripe the flesh softens and takes on an orange color; by that point the gourd is too bitter to eat.
- Gourd, Tulifer The Tulifer gourd looks like an oval, orange melon with green horns or spikes. The yellow-green flesh is soft and gel-like. If eaten raw it tastes very sour and salty, but if allowed to ripen the sourness is not as strong.
- JAVO** Javo is a large oval fruit with a thick brown skin covered in spines, similar to a pineapple. It is the smell of javo that everyone remembers. The smell is a horrible cross between excrement and onions that is detectable from half a mile away when the fruit is fully ripe. Because of the smell, most of the city-states have banished the cultivation of javo to isolated client villages. The inside of the javo is very soft, and, contrary to the revolting aroma of the fruit's outer shell, the custard-like interior is nutty and sweet.
- JUNNFRUIT** Junnfruit has a tough orange rind, but inside it is meaty and juicy. It is eaten by nobles and rich merchants, the only ones who can afford it as a sweet snack.
- ORANGE** The Dictator Andropinis of Balic maintains a private orange grove outside his palace. Originally for his pleasure only, the merchant-house of Wavir now sells a limited number of the oranges at a high price.
- TARANGE** Tarange is a nice, sweet fruit, slightly tangy in flavor. There are many varieties of this pear-shaped fruit, though the skin is not edible like that of a pear. The color of the skin varies by type with colors that range from purple to orange. The center pith is full of inedible seeds.
- VELGEST FRUIT** The fruit of the velgest tree, the vel, is craved by nobles and rich merchants as a dessert. The taste is sweet though slightly acidic. The velgest tree grows in areas of high humidity such as the Crescent Forest.

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## WELELA

The welela fruit is a long, thin, prickly gourd whose meat is flavorful and contains a fair amount of water.

## OTHER COMMON FRUITS

- Plums
- Pomegranates
- Apricots
- Grapes
- Olives