

# The ABC'S of Succulents

The  **PRICKLY**  **PALACE**  
[www.pricklypalace.com](http://www.pricklypalace.com)  
Riverside, CA

What is a Cactus?  
What is a Succulent?  
What's the Difference?

These are all  
Succulent Plants



# What is a Succulent?

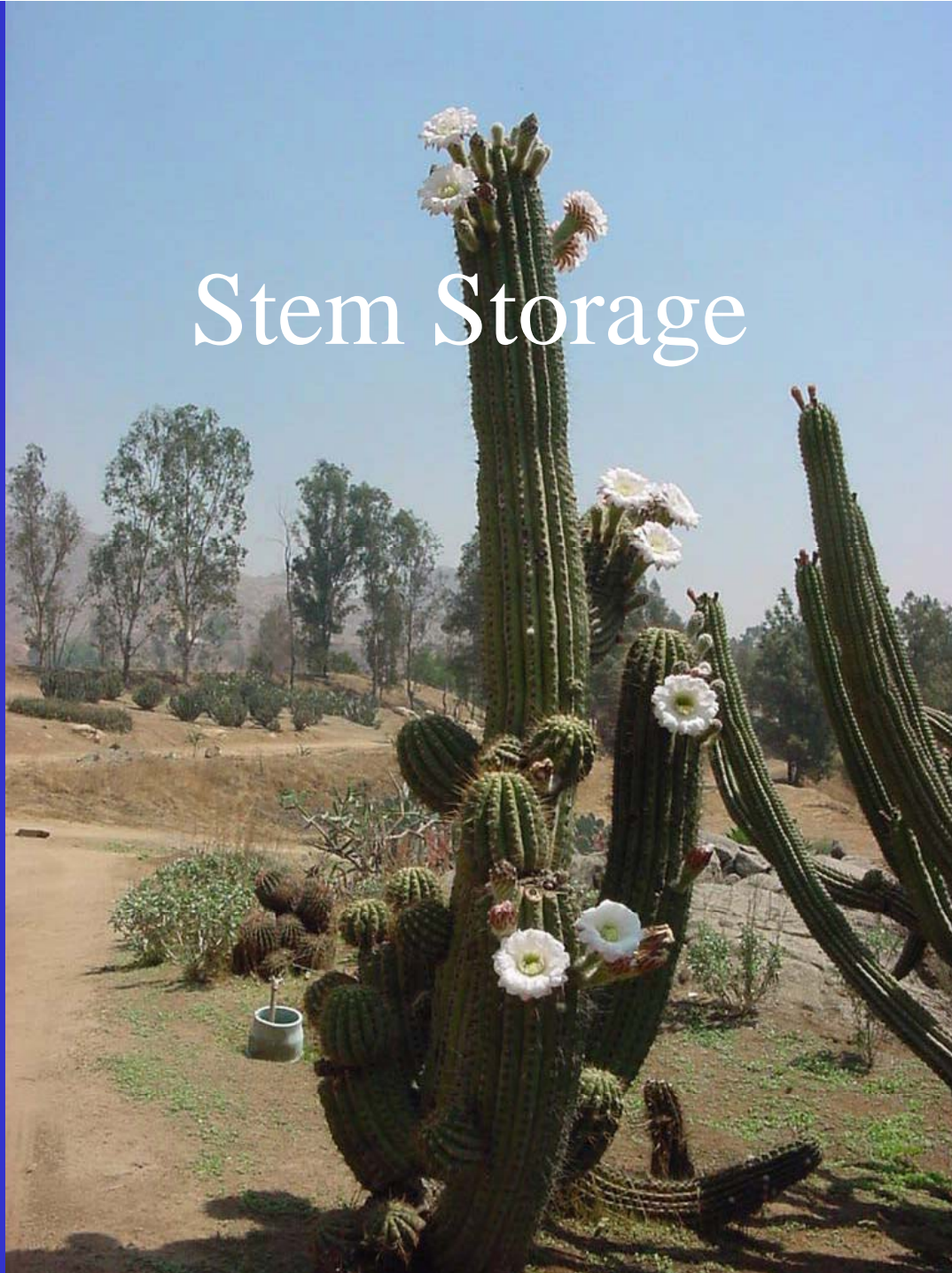
They have the ability to  
Store Water in times of drought

Some use Crassulacean Acid  
Metabolism “CAM” to survive

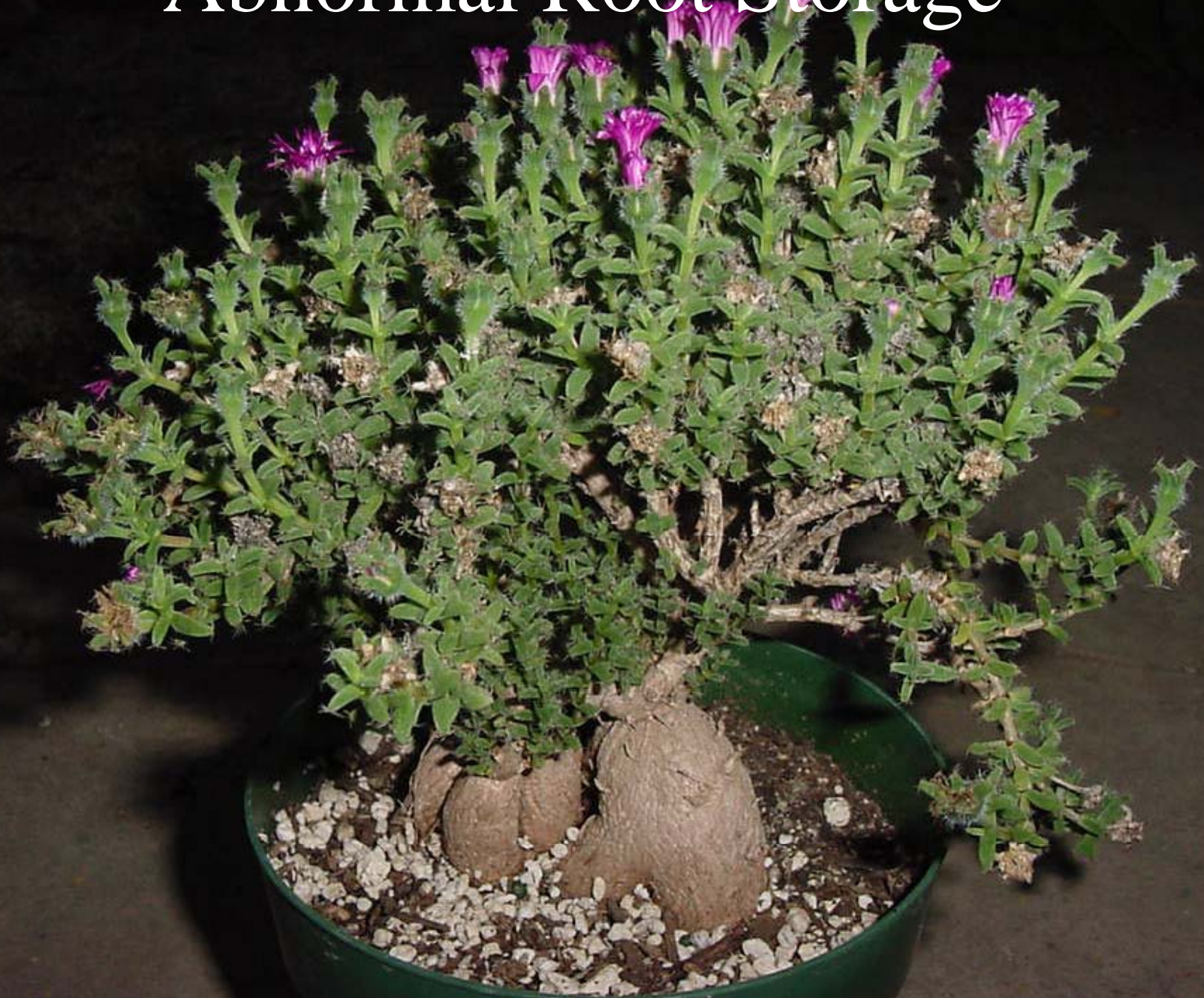
# Leaf Storage



# Stem Storage



# Abnormal Root Storage



What is a Cactus?  
What is a Succulent?  
What's the Difference?



Due to their systems for  
water storage.

All Cacti are Succulents



But All Succulents  
are Not Cacti

Cactus only grow in the  
Western Hemisphere



Succulent Euphorbia  
Africa, Europe  
Middle East, Sub Continent



Cacti – None up to hundreds

Euphorbia – Usually  
Two Spines (if there are spines)



Euphorbia – White Milky  
Astringent, Poisonous Sap



Cacti – Aureoles  
Flowers, Seed,  
New Growth, Roots



## Euphorbia – Flowers

Small yellow flowers,  
Surrounded by colorful  
bracts



## Cacti – Flowers

Usually showy large,  
complex flowers



Euphorbia – Seeds,  
Normally 3 sided pods



Cacti – Seeds,  
Complex from a few to  
thousands of seeds







# Aloe

from Africa, Europe,  
Middle East

Agave  
from Western Hemisphere



Aloe  
Blooms Annually



Agave  
Blooms Once  
*Monocarpic*



# Aloe Leaves Prickles



# Agave Leaves Terminal Spines, Bud Imprint