

APPENDIX II

Glossary of Names for Cochineal
and
Related Words

GLOSSARY OF NAMES FOR COCHINEAL AND RELATED WORDS

- Armenian cochineal** - Most recently discovered of the scale insects dyes.
- American cochineal** - Is a type of cochineal that is found in the Ararat Valley and adjacent areas.
- Armenian cochineal** - This type of cochineal may well have been known and used by the Assyrians before the seventh century B.C. It is produced in the Armenian mountains (Robinson 1969, p. 25).
- asemillada** - Seeding cochineal on the cactus (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- cajones** - Boxes in which the cochineal was shipped. Could also be bales covered with hides (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- cartuchos** - Nests of cochineal with 10-25 females. The nest can be made of Spanish moss, palm fiber, maize sheath, bark, hollow reeds or cane (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- carminic acid** - Produced by the cochineal insect. Was first chemically isolated in 1818.
- ceccinus** - Latin word meaning scarlet from which the word cochineal was derived (Boyd 1974, p.175)..
- chuchumites** - Guatemalan word that usually referred to dyes; probably applied to numerous varieties of American indigo and perhaps cochineal (Osborne 1965, p. 35).
- cochineal** - English word for red dyestuff consisting of the dried, pulverized bodies of the female scale insect Dactylopius coccus. It is found living on the prickly pear cactus native to tropical and subtropical America (Moore 1967, p. 42)
- cochinilla** - Spanish word for grana. Cocinilla means wood-louse in Castillian Spanish (Wright 1963, p. 636). Comes from the Spanish cochina which means small female hog. The word was applied to the insect because of a believed resemblance in shape. After the Spanish came to Mexico they promptly gave the name to the red dye called nochezli by the Aztecs (Leggett 1944, p. 84).
- cotton cochineal** - Was found growing wild and was characterized by stringy cotton like sacks which contain the mother cochineal. The domestic variety of cochineal produces a white talcum powder like substance (Donkin 1977, p. 18).
- Coqueelaa** - Name for the Zapotec god of cochineal (Whitecotton 1977, p. 164).

- Dactylopius confusus - Scale insect which produced cochineal and is commonly found on the prickly pear cactus (Gilbreath 1985, p. 68).
- denegrada - Aztec name for a type of cochineal produced by putting small bags full of cochineal in a small amount of boiling water. Cochineal prepared in this way is a brown, dull red or rosy black color (Donkin 1977, p. 18).
- hemipters or "true bugs" - Name used for cochineal before Cortez came to Mexico (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- grain or ingrain - Latin word which means seed. Kermes particles were sometimes called by that name because of their similarity to small seeds. Ingrain is an abbreviation for "dyed in grain." The word is derived from the way kermes was shipped in the form of round reddish-brown balls about the size of a pea. Each ball has a tiny hole filled with the crumb-like particles or grains of dye. In Latin the word "granum" means seed and the name then was given to the small red particles (Leggett 1944, p. 79)..
- grana baja or mezclada - Cochineal mixed with chalk or powdered clay or flour. Known in Nahuatl as tlalpalnextli, from tlalalli (color) and nextli (ashes). Other additives were pitch, sand and various other minerals-chosen according to color of the grana (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- grand de partle - Means fine cochineal of the nest and was used when the mother cochineal dies in the nest (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- grana (grain) - Name for cochineal in the Spanish Colonial Period (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- grana fina (fino) - Name for fine, delicate, excellent, pure (precious) cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- grana negra - Black cochineal which has been dried on hot plates (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- grana silvestre - Wild, uncultured, rustic cochineal, also called xalnocheztli (Donkin 1977 p. 14-20).
- granilla, mostacilla - Fragments of broken cochineal insects (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- jaspeada (marbled) - Ash-grey cochineal with silver bands marking the surface that was prepared by drying in an oven. This type of cochineal comes on the market today from the Canary Islands or Peru (Gerber 1978, p. 62).
- kermes - Armenian word meaning "little worm." The Latin equivalent is vermiculus, from which root comes our current word vermilion. The most celebrated red dye of the Middle Ages which declined in importance in the Dark Ages. Kermes was used by European and Asiatic cloth merchants for nearly fifteen hundred years. It was sometimes known as vermiculus (small worm), hence the word vermilion. Kermes was traded through the length and breadth of Europe and also into Persia, India, and China. It was replaced by cochineal, but still in use until middle

seventeenth century when it was discovered that cochineal mordanted with chloride of tin to give a more vivid red (Donkin 1977, p. 10).

madres (grey) - Is the mother cochineal found on the nopal in nests of 100 or more (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

magno - Bricks of wild cochineal combined with various plants to make different colors and sold in the local markets in Peru (Donkin 1977, 14-20)..

mealy cochineal from "mealy bug" - A fine waxy powder coating of the domestic kind of cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

Mixteca - Earliest center of cochineal production in Mexico. The Mixtec knew the place as Nuduco (nuhu means land and juco means cochineal). The best cochineal sold in Europe come from Mixteca (Donkin 1977, p. 28).

Náhuatl - The language of the Aztecs.

náhautl - Was the cacti or nopalli that cochineal was grown on (Donkin 1977, p.12).

nocheztli - Na'huatl word for the cochineal insect and the dye it produced (Wright 1963, p. 635).

nocheztlaxcalli - Cakes or tablets (panes, panecitos, pastillas) of cochineal used by the Indians and sold at the open markets. Preparation of the paste was a trade secret (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

nocheztli, grana fina - Fine domestic cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

Nochistla'n - present-day Mixtec town in Oaxaca, derived from nocheztlan, meaning "the place where there is much cochineal" (Wright 1963, p. 635).

Nochtli - The tuna or fruit of the nopal cacti (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

nopalea cochinellifera- Prickly pear cactus known only from Mexico and Guatemala, that the cochineal insect feed on (Vines 1982, p. 359).

nopalerias - Cultivation area for cochineal (Wright 1963, p. 636).

nopaleros - Indians who cultivate the cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

nopalnocheztli and nocheznopalli - Nahuatl name for certain forms of prickly pear that produces blood fruit (Wright 1963, p. 635).

Opuntia - Prickly pear cactus widely distributed from Canada to Argentina (Gilbreath 1985, p. 68).

Opuntia ficus-indica and Opuntia pilifera - Prickly pear cactus found in Oaxaca and grown for cochineal (Wright 1963, p. 635).

- Opuntia lindheimeri* - Prickly pear found in central Texas, coastal and Louisiana westward. *Opuntia* (genus name), Latinized name for the town Opus in ancient Greece. *Opuntia lindheimeri* was collected extensively in Texas in 1836-1842 (Vines 1982, p. 358).
- pencas - Fleshy fronds of the prickly pear cactus (Wright 1963, p. 635).
- Polish cochineal - Called German kermes is produced by the insect *Margarodes polonensis* L. and grows in a temperate climate. It is more like kermes than American cochineal. When American cochineal was introduced into Europe, it led to the disuse of Polish cochineal (Leene, ed. 1972, p. 25).
- prickly pear cacti - known in Latin-American countries as Nochtli, Culhua, Cancanopa, Pacal, Potzotz. Toat, Pare, Caha, Lantha, and Nopal. Used extensively for food by the Indians of Mexico (Vines 1982, p. 359).
- partli - Spanish for cochineal nests. Grana de partle, fine cochineal of the nests (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- pircay or pilcay - Cochineal and liver pounded together, dried in the sun and made into tortas in Peru (Donkin 19, p. 33).
- plateada blanca - Fine silver cochineal which has been dried in the sun for two weeks. The Spanish preferred this method of drying cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- Polish cochineal - From the insect *Margarodes polonicus* L. Known since the Early Middle Ages as "St. John's blood" or "Polish grains" (Forder 1956, p. 102).
- "rouge de cochenille" - Cochineal produced from insect breeding on the stems of certain species of grass in the Ararat valleys. The Assyrians acquired knowledge of cochineal around 714 B.C. Was preferred over kermes in the Old Testament days. The best cochineal came from the mountains of Armenia (Forbes 1956, p. 102).
- scarlatum, (Latin for flesh colored) - Name of fine wool dyed red with "Persian cochineal.." At first it referred to the material itself, then became associated with the color scarlet (Leggett 1944, p. 76).
- scarlet - Persian root is "sakirlat" for red color. Scarlet comes from the Latin word "carnis" which means flesh. It was incorporated in Latin nomenclature as scarlatum, meaning flesh colored, as scarlatinus meaning pale red, and scarlato which means full deep red. The word carlet first appears in Central Europe in the 11th century (Leggett 1944, p. 76-77).
- semilla - Newly hatched cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).
- St John's blood - A form of red dye, a variety of kermes, which was tithed by neighbors of several German monasteries on the feast day of St. John (Leggett 1944, p. 81).
- "tan doncella y delicada" - Means that the nopal cactus is subject to many diseases (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20)..
- telegras - Bags to hold dried cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 18).

temazealli - Heated rooms designed for hot vapor baths that reduced the time needed to dry cochineal (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

tola or tola shame - Name of kermes mentioned by Moses. The prefix meaning bright worm and the suffix, red dye (Leggett 1944, p. 71).

tlapalnextli - Nahuatl word for cochineal from the inferior fruit or tuna cacti (Donkin 1977, p. 14-20).

tuna - The fruit of the nopal (Donkin 1977, p. 13).

tunal - The main body of the nopal (Donkin 1977, p. 13).

Venetian Red - Name given to cochineal because of the color it produced with a tin mordant. It was the color of the cardinals robes (Leggett 1944, p. 81).

wild cochineal - The cochineal insect which grows wild and is one-half the size of the cultivated insects.