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# The Journal of The Mammillaria Society

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*Mammillaria melaleuca*

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Cover illustration of *Mammillaria melaleuca* by Alasdair Glen

A less common member of the subgenus *Dolichothele*, both in collections and on the show bench, *M. melaleuca* was first described in 1850, occurring in Oaxaca but this was later corrected to Palmillas, Tamaulipas where it grows at an altitude of 1500 m. Hailing from this altitude it would be expected to be fairly robust in our winters and in my experience I've found nothing to contradict this. I have, however, to modify both some of my comments published in the August 2001 issue of our Journal and a generally held view regarding slowness of growth and reluctance to offset. The example illustrated, purchased from Uhlig's nursery in 2004 in a 7 cm. pot, is growing rapidly and all five offsets contributed to flushes of flowers in May and in August 2006, reinforcing my recommendation of this species.

Nevertheless, despite this apparent vigour, I would still recommend discretion with the watering can and a gritty compost.

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<http://www.cactus-mall.com/mammsoc/index.html>