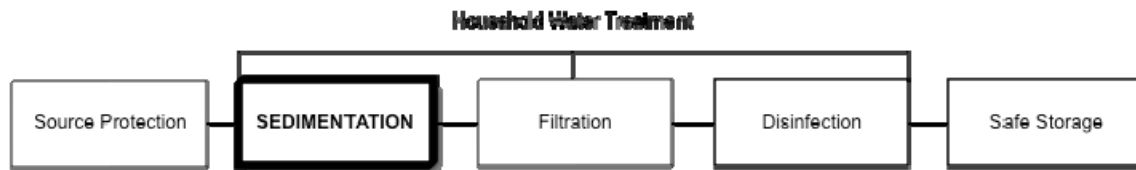


Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage Fact Sheet: Natural Coagulants

The Treatment Process



Effectiveness

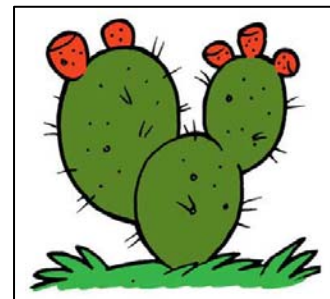
Very Effective For:	Somewhat Effective For:	Not Effective For:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turbidity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bacteria • Viruses • Protozoa • Helminths • Taste, smell, colour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemicals

How Does it Work?

The sedimentation process can be quickened by adding natural **coagulants** to the water. Coagulants help the sand, silt and clay join together and form larger clumps, making it easier for them to settle to the bottom of the container. There are a variety of natural products which have been used around the world to help with sedimentation, including moringa seeds and prickly pear cactus.

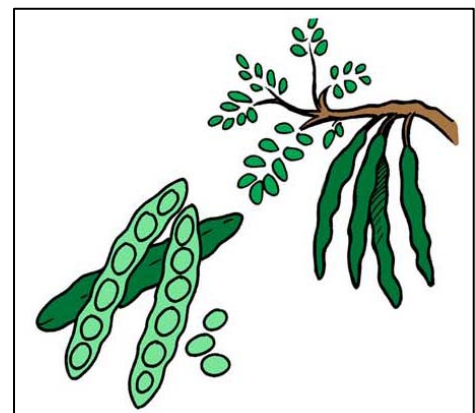
Effectiveness

- Quality: Effective for removing turbidity and somewhat effective for pathogens; varies depending on the water
- Quantity: Depends on the size of container being used
- Local water: Can be used with any water source



Appropriateness

- Local availability: Natural coagulants are not always available; can use any container
- Time: 2+ hours
- Operation and maintenance: Need to dry and grind seeds before adding them to water; need to wash container afterwards
- Lifespan: Dried beans and seeds can be stored for a long time; prickly pear cactus needs to be used before the sap dries; containers may need to be replaced



Acceptability

- Taste, smell, colour: May improve colour; may cause an objectionable taste
- Ease of use: Need to prepare natural coagulants beforehand; easy to add coagulants to water

Cost

- Initial purchase cost: None
- Operating cost: None