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Plants

Kopiko

Psychotria hexandra subsp. *oahuensis*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally Listed as a Candidate Species
Genetic Safety Net Species
Hawai'i Natural Heritage Ranking- Imperiled;
Subspecies Critically Imperiled (G2T1)
Endemism – O'ahu

SPECIES INFORMATION: Tree or shrub up to 6 m tall. Flowers unisexual, usually 6-merous, corolla white, apex acute in bud.

DISTRIBUTION: North Ko'olau Mountains, O'ahu.

ABUNDANCE: Three plants have been observed in the Ko'olau Mountains.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: Lowland *Metrosideros* mixed shrub/fern wet forest. Associated with *Pritchardia martii*, *Syzygium sandwicensis*, *Melicope clusifolia*, *Scaevola chammissoniana*, *Rhynchospora sclerioides*, and other *Psychotria* species.

THREATS:

- Habitat degradation by feral pigs;
- Fruit predation by rats;
- Competition from alien plant species;
- Stochastic extinction;
- Reduced reproductive vigor due to the small number of remaining individuals.

CONSERVATION ACTIONS: The goals of conservation actions are not only to protect current populations, but also to establish new populations to reduce the risk of extinction. In addition to common statewide and island conservation actions, specific actions include:

- Survey historical range for surviving populations;
- Establish secure *ex-situ* stocks with complete representation of remaining individuals;
- Augment wild population and establish new populations in safe harbors.

MONITORING:

- Continue surveys of population and distribution in known and likely habitats;

- Monitor plants for insect damage and plant diseases.

RESEARCH PRIORITIES:

- Develop proper horticultural protocols and pest management;
- Survey *ex-situ* holdings and conduct molecular fingerprinting;
- Conduct pollination biology and seed dispersal studies;
- Map genetic diversity in the surviving populations to guide future re-introduction and augmentation efforts.

References:

Hawai'i Natural Heritage Program. 2005. Hawaii Natural Heritage Program Search, <http://www.hinhp.org/printpage.asp?spp=PDMALOH0A0>.

Wagner, W.L., Herbst, D.R., and Sohmer, S.H. 1999. Manual of the Flowering Plants of Hawai'i-- Revised Edition. Honolulu, HI: University of Hawaii Press and Bishop Museum Press. 1853p.