



Plants

Lo'ulu

Pritchardia glabrata

SPECIES STATUS:

Genetic Safety Net Species

IUCN Red List Ranking - EN A1ce+2ce, B1+2bcde, D

Hawai'i Natural Heritage Ranking – Critically Imperiled

Endemism - Maui

SPECIES INFORMATION: Very short palms, with a short slender trunk up to 2 m tall, with relatively wide open crown of around 15 leaves, petioles are smooth and devoid of scales. Lower leaf surface covered with very small scales. Fruit globose or ovoid, 21-24 mm long 16-20 mm wide.

DISTRIBUTION: Growing on steep cliffs in valleys in western Maui.

ABUNDANCE: Estimated that less than ten individuals exist in the wild.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: Occurring on cliffs in mesic gulches around 550 m, elevation.

THREATS:

- Damage caused by feral pigs, rats and goats;
- Competitive pressure is exerted by invasive plants such as *Rubus rosifolius*.

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=PDMAL0H0A0>.

Wagner, W.L.; Herbst, D.R.; 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