



Plants

Stenogyne bifida

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally Listed as Endangered

Genetic Safety Net Species

Hawai'i Natural Heritage Ranking- Critically Imperiled (G1)

Endemism – Moloka'i

Critical Habitat - Designated

SPECIES INFORMATION: *Stenogyne bifida*, a nonaromatic member of the mint family (Lamiaceae), is a climbing, short-lived perennial herb, with smooth or slightly hairy, four-angled stems. The long, narrow calyx teeth and the deep lobe in the upper lip of the yellow corolla separate this species from others of the genus.

DISTRIBUTION: Moloka'i.

ABUNDANCE: Currently fewer than ten plants are known.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: *Stenogyne bifida* typically grows on steep ridges in 'ōhi'a-dominated Montane Mesic to Wet Forests with native species such as hapu'u, manono, 'olapa, *Broussaisia arguta* (kanawao), and *Pouteria* ('ala'a) at elevations between 450 and 1,200 m (1,450 and 4,000 ft).

THREATS:

- Direct damage from ungulates (axis deer, goats, and pigs).

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

- Survey historic 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:

Carr, G. 2005. Hawaiian Native Plant Genera, University of Hawaii Botany Department, <http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/carr/images>.

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service. 1991. Final Listing, Endangered ETWP; Determination of Endangered or Threatened Status for 16 Plants from the Island of Molokai, Hawaii; Federal Register, (FEDREGISTER 57 FR 46325 10/08/92; 2070 lines.), (11-09-92), 57 FR 46325 46340, 10 pp.

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.