



## Plants

### 'Ohe'ohe

*Tetraplasandra flynnii*

#### SPECIES STATUS:

Genetic Safety Net Species

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

Endemism – Kaua'i

**SPECIES INFORMATION:** Andromonoecious trees ca. 7-9 m tall. Leaves pinnately compound, with 5-9 leaflets. Inflorescence densely brown pubescent throughout. In August 1999, an unidentified person purposefully girdled one of the trees, which led to the death of one of the last remaining individuals.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Endemic to the island of Kaua'i. It is only known to occur in Kalalau Valley over an area of 1 km<sup>2</sup>.

**ABUNDANCE:** Extremely rare. Restricted to a single known population now comprising only two individuals.

**LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT:** Mesic to wet forest. Current population occurs on a steep north-facing montane mesic to wet 'ōhi'a forest with a mostly open canopy that is approximately 10-15 m tall.

#### THREATS:

- Direct damage and habitat degradation from goats;
- Invasive alien plants;
- Erosion.

**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 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=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.