



World Magnolia Adventures

Magnolia ofeliae: Population decline

CR

Critically Endangered

Alondra Salomé Ortega Peña, Sergio Misael Gallegos Mendoza, Alejandro Zabalgoitia, Jesús Padilla Lepe, Baltazar Dueñas Curiel, Noelia Alvarez y J. Antonio Vázquez-García

Magnolia ofeliae is a tree 25-35 m high and reaches 150cm from DAP. Its leaves reach 45cm in length and its flowers ca. 14cm in diameter are white to cream with small purple spots on the base, its fruits on the other hand, are polyphilic that reach 44 carpels. This species is endemic to the Talpa de Allende municipality in Jalisco and is located between 500 and 900 meters above sea level in the transition of mountain mesophilic forest and tropical deciduous forest. The species was named in honor of the mother of the first author (A.Vázquez).

Currently the ex situ collection of Magnolias of the University of Guadalajara-CUCBA has two young individuals (3 years).

Two of the three known populations for this species were visited on March 9 and 10, 2019, "Hacienda de Santa Gertrudis" and "Palo Alto", the first site with the guidance of a villager, Baltazar Dueñas Curiel, who He also helped in the collection of fruits and hosted the collectors. Both sites had both mature and young individuals, with the second site having the least number of individuals. While collecting herbarium specimens at the second site, the presence of a pollinator beetle was observed within a flower, a fact of great importance since one of the hypotheses of the low number of individuals could be due to lack of pollinators.



WORLD MAGNOLIA ASSOCIATION FOR CONSERVATION
WMAC
"Saving Magnolias and their habitats"

WORLD MAGNOLIA ASSOCIATION FOR CONSERVATION WMAC

“Saving Magnolias and their habitats”

The reasons why this magnolia is currently under protection are the threat due to the reduction of habitat and advance of the agricultural frontier, together with its reduced distribution; reasons why it is urgent to protect it *in situ* by proposing the forests where it is found as a Natural Protected Areas at state government instances.

With the seeds collected, despite having applied three different treatments for germination, no results were obtained, even though the analyzes carried out indicated that the seeds have 76% viability, in addition to showing an imbibition rate of 14%, which indicates that it has no physical latency.

CONTACT: talaumaofeliae@gmail.com

