



Plants

Dubautia kenwoodii

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally Listed as Endangered

Genetic Safety Net Species

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

Endemism – Kaua'i

SPECIES INFORMATION: Shrub up to 5 m tall. Leaves opposite, commonly 4-12 cm long, 0.8-2.0 cm wide, narrowly elliptic to sometimes narrowly lanceolate. Inflorescences about 14 cm long and 10 cm wide, with numerous heads. Florets mostly 12-18. Corollas rusty yellow with age.

DISTRIBUTION: *Dubautia kenwoodii* is known only from the type specimen collected on the island of Kaua'i. The specimen was collected in 1991 below the rim of Kalalau Valley.

ABUNDANCE: Only a single plant of *D. kenwoodii* has ever been found. However, there are many cliff faces in Kalalau valley and other nearby valleys that may support additional plants.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: The only plant of *D. kenwoodii* ever seen was on a cliff face vegetated with mesic shrubland and forest species.

THREATS:

- Habitat degradation by feral pigs;
- 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:

- Survey for populations and distribution in known and likely habitats;
- Monitor exclosure fences for damage and inside exclosures for signs of ungulate ingress;
- 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;
- Map genetic diversity in the surviving populations to guide future re-introduction and augmentation efforts.

References:

Carr, G., 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., D. R. Herbst, and D. H. Lorence. 2005-. Flora of the Hawaiian Islands website. <http://ravenel.si.edu/botany/pacificislandbiodiversity/hawaiianflora/index.htm> [August, 2005].