

Project Update: August 2014

Tillandsia deppeana Steud, considered endemic to Mexico, is the single species, among current Cuban bromeliads composition, distributed only in Mexico and Central Cuba. The historic distribution of *T. deppeana* in the island was Pico Potrerillo (863 m asl) and Pico San Juan region (1140 m asl), the highest mountains of Guamuhaia.

Nevertheless, expeditions carried out by us since 2006 record the extirpation of the species from Pico Potrerillo, probably after Hurricane Dennis devastated the evergreen forests in 2005 and restraining the actual species distribution to Pico San Juan region.

Due to its local distribution, reduced to a small surface (less than 50 m²) and its scarcity (less than 50 individuals) and fragmented population it is considered an endangered species in Cuba. For that reason we are proposing to the Cuban Plants Specialist Group

(SSC/IUCN) to include the species in the actual Cuban vascular plant red list.



Top: Expedición a Pico San Juan - Julio León Cabrera. Bottom left: *T. deppeana* flower. Bottom right: *Tillandsia deppeana*, Pico San Juan.