

# IUCN SSC New Caledonia Plant Red List Authority

2018 Report



Shankar Meyer

## **Red List Authority Coordinator**

Shankar Meyer

## **Location/Affiliation**

Endemia Association, Nouméa,  
New Caledonia, France

## **Number of members**

48

## **Social networks**

Facebook:

Endemia.nc

Website:

<http://endemia.nc/en/page/le-rla-flore-nc>

## **Mission statement**

Our goal is to assess the conservation status of the whole flora of New Caledonia by 2020. New Caledonia contains some 3,371 native species of vascular plants, of which 74% are considered endemic. This exceptional floristic diversity is threatened by accelerating development. The Red Listing activities will: (1) bring a valuable tool for local institutions in charge of setting conservation priorities, and (2) allow knowledge improvement by identifying Data Deficient species.

## **Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium**

By the end of 2020, we intend to assess the entire New Caledonian flora using the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species to generate the critical information needed to catalyse and prioritise conservation actions on the most threatened plants of New Caledonia. Through this process, we are generating information on their distribution, habitats, ecology, population trends, threats and ultimately their probability of extinction (extinction risk), which is the starting point for conservation. This information will then be used for conservation planning and priority setting at the national level, to inform private sector decision making and for education and public awareness, which will impact positively the conservation status of New Caledonian flora and sustainable development at the national level.

## **Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium**

### **Assess**

Red List: complete the IUCN Red List assessment of the entire New Caledonian Flora (3,400 species).

Research activities: publish scientific papers about our Red List Authority's (RLA) work and its results.

### **Communicate**

Communication: (1) raise awareness among citizens and decision makers about the vulnerability of New Caledonian flora; (2) expand the scope of communication beyond local citizens and decision makers.

## **Activities and results 2018**

### **Assess**

#### **Red List**

**i.** In 2018, our RLA assessed 370 plant species, the grand total now being at around 1,600 species. We will obviously keep on working hard to achieve our goal, but the pace might slow a little over the next years because of taxonomic doubts for a good portion of remaining species, huge amounts of time that go into redaction and submission phases, and of course all the other activities we are engaged in as a local non-profit. (KSR #2)

### **Communicate**

#### **Communication**

**i.** Our results are regularly sent over to local authorities, mostly to add new species to the provincial legislation (Environment Codes). In addition, thanks to funding from the European Union, we were able to create a photo exhibit and present it in many places in New Caledonia. This helped raise awareness among citizens and decision makers, and we will continue to offer the exhibit for various events or actors throughout the territory. (KSR #36)



*Dracophyllum ouaiemense*, Critically Endangered  
Photo: Gildas Gâteblé

*Araucaria humboldtensis*, Endangered  
Photo: Pete Lowry



### Acknowledgements

We thank the following donors, who helped Endemia set up the New Caledonia Plant Red List Authority in 2014 and allowed it to coordinate the assessment effort: the North and South Provinces of New Caledonia, the French government (by way of the Direction for Agriculture, Forests and Environment), as well as Société Le Nickel, Koniambo Nickel SAS and Vale NC. Moreover, we want to thank our scientific and technical partners in and outside of New Caledonia: IRD (French Research Institute for Development), IAC (Agronomical Institute of New Caledonia), NOU and P herbaria. And of course we give huge thanks to all members of our RLA and outside contributors, whose outstanding efforts have helped us accomplish all this work.

### Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 2/5

Assess 1 |

Communicate 1 |

Main KSRs addressed: 2, 36

KSR: Key Species Result



Roches Ouaieme, a micro-endemism hotspot in the Northeast  
Photo: Vincent Tanguy