



## Plants

### *Labordia* sp. nov.

#### SPECIES STATUS:

Genetic Safety Net Species  
Endemism – Kaua'i

**SPECIES INFORMATION:** Small tree about 10 ft. tall. Top of leaf glabrous, lower surface tomentose, base peltate. Mature fruits up to 4.5 cm long..

**DISTRIBUTION:** Endemic to Kaua'i, Waimea Canyon drainages.

**ABUNDANCE:** There are only two known individuals.

**LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT:** *Acacia koa*-*Metrosideros polymorpha* Mixed Mesic Forest. Associated native species include *Perrottetia sandwicensis*, *Claoxylon sandwicensis*, *Psychotria mariniana*, *Scaevola procera*, *Pipturus kauaiensis*, *Rubus hawaiiensis*, *Chamaesyce atrococca*, *Melicope barbigera*, *Melicope feddei*, *Melicope anisata*, *Antidesma platyphylla*, *Pittosporum glabrum*, *Bobea brevipes*, *Xylosma hawaiiense*, and *Cryptocarya mannii*.

#### THREATS:

- Direct damage and habitat degradation by feral goats and pigs;
- Competition with invasive alien plant species;
- Reduced reproductive vigor due to lack of genetic diversity.

**CONSERVATION ACTIONS:** The goals of conservation actions are not only to protect current populations, but also to establish further 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;
- Conduct pollination biology and seed dispersal studies;
- Map genetic diversity in the surviving populations to guide future re-introduction and augmentation efforts.

**References:**

NTBG. 2005. Perlman, Steve. Field Data Booklet. SP 19652. Unpublished data.