

## **Project Update: January 2009**

Conservation of rare and threatened climber species of the Pampean Sierras – an integrated approach.

### **1. Conservation *ex situ***

The field work planned for 2008 has been completed. Complementary field work in January-May 2009 will focus on populations of some especially endangered species and on some previously unvisited areas.

Input of the 2008 field data to the computer is in progress and is expected to be completed in February 2009. A methodology for preparing distribution maps from this information (based on Google Maps) has been developed. The preparation of these maps and the statistical analysis and interpretation of the results will be carried out in the next few months.

### **2. Conservation *in situ***

The activities planned for 2008 have been completed. Over 900 plants of different species have been grown from seeds, of which about 300 have already been transplanted to pots. Many of those are being and will be kept in the shade-house for further observation at least until winter (June) 2009.

Some of the plants produced will eventually be used in ecological restoration projects, while others will be donated for further cultivation to schools, botanical gardens and other public entities.

In complementary fieldwork in the first half of 2009 we will try to collect seeds of some species, of which little or no viable seeds could be found in 2008.

### **3. Diffusion**

All the workshops and talks planned for 2008 (and more) have been completed. Some limited activity may continue in March-May 2009.

We have begun to compile the materials (photos, texts) for the informative bulletin. This work will continue in the next two months. The production and printing of the bulletin is planned to be completed by June 2009.