Botanic Gardens Conservation International

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Resource centre ▸ Comment on the Conservation of Sophora toromiro from Easter Island

Comments on the Conservation of Sophora toromiro from Easter Island

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The 'toromiro' is a member of the 'kiwiriki' group within the genus Sophora. In 1817, it was described by Goldberg (1931-32) as a new species, Sophora toromiro, which was then considered to be the closest relative of Sophora velutina. This view has not been accepted in recent years. The fact that this tree was originally published by Weinberger, T. (1855-56). Soon after this, it was transferred to the genus Sophora, which has since been renamed Sophora toromiro. In 1976, he described a new species, Sophora toromiro, which was considered to be the closest relative of Sophora velutina. This view has not been accepted in recent years.

In 1966-68, on invitation by the Chilean Ministry of Agriculture, D. Schäffer carried out an inventory of the toromiro to its native habitat. Several extant specimens were collected in Sophora toromiro from Easter Island, New Zealand, from a single tree growing in the island's interior. A few were planted at the British Museum, and a few more of Sophora toromiro were planted, among many other species in various conservation centres, including Sophora, in Japan. In addition, several rock-bound trees were grown in Sophora toromiro from Easter Island, New Zealand.

Christian Botanic Gardens is not the only garden to care for Sophora toromiro. When Thor Heyerdahl planned his expedition to Easter Island, he was asked by the Swedish Professor, Carl von Linsingen, to import Sophora toromiro from the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador. J. J. Schäffer visited the Galapagos Islands to collect Sophora toromiro, and there he found three or four plants, which contained Sophora toromiro. D. Schäffer has now made two Sophora toromiro, which he has named Sophora toromiro 'Catacora', which is a clone of Sophora toromiro x Sophora velutina, and Sophora toromiro 'Easter Island', which is a clone of Sophora toromiro x Sophora velutina, by Sophora toromiro from Easter Island and Sophora toromiro from Galapagos Island, respectively.

This information published in a paper by D. Schäffer (1994), which was subsequently cited to the present author. The paper also included some scientific details of the project in Easter Island, and D. Schäffer discussed the role of Sophora toromiro in the Galapagos Islands and Sophora toromiro from the Galapagos Islands, and Sophora toromiro from Easter Island. The paper also included some scientific details of the project in Easter Island, and D. Schäffer discussed the role of Sophora toromiro in the Galapagos Islands and Sophora toromiro from the Galapagos Islands, and Sophora toromiro from Easter Island.

Are the Sophora toromiro Still Growing in Easter Island?

In a television documentary film made in 1994 by the Chilean, Francisca Rivas, it is stated that plants of the Sophora toromiro are still to be found in the Galapagos Islands. The Sophora toromiro were planted outside of the Galapagos Islands, and the complete list of Sophora toromiro in the Galapagos Islands is yet to be discovered. D. Schäffer visited the Galapagos Islands to collect Sophora toromiro, and there he found three or four plants, which contained Sophora toromiro. D. Schäffer has now made two Sophora toromiro, which he has named Sophora toromiro 'Catacora', which is a clone of Sophora toromiro x Sophora velutina, and Sophora toromiro 'Easter Island', which is a clone of Sophora toromiro x Sophora velutina, by Sophora toromiro from Easter Island and Sophora toromiro from Galapagos Island, respectively.

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