

Project Update: May 2014

We have succeeded in the collection of ripe fruits from 12 tree species from the tropical montane cloud forest in the watershed of River Pixquiac, Veracruz, Mexico (Table 1). Seeds from at least two individual trees have been collected per species and have all been processed and sown at the nursery of the botanical garden at INECOL A.C. and at the community El Zapotal, San Pedro Buenavista. A voucher from each tree has been collected and deposited at the XAL herbarium. Percentages of germination recorded as at May 2014 are shown in Table 1. Germination has varied widely among species; for *Sideroxylon contrerasii*, for example, seeds required 6 months to initiate germination, while in other species, such as *Fraxinus uhdei*, this required a period of only 20 days.

Table 1. Tree species for the restoration of degraded tropical montane cloud forest in Veracruz, Mexico. Conservation status according to González-Espinosa et al. (2011): EN = Endangered, VU= vulnerable, NT = near threatened and LC = least concern.

Species	Family	Status ¹	Germination (%)
<i>Fraxinus uhdei</i> (Wenz.) Lingelsh.	Oleaceae	LC	35.5
<i>Juglans pyriformis</i> Liebm.	Juglandaceae	EN	52.1
<i>Magnolia dealbata</i> Zucc.	Magnoliaceae	EN	90.8
<i>Ocotea disjuncta</i> Lorea-Hern.	Lauraceae	EN	7.6
<i>Oreomunea mexicana</i> J.F. Leroy	Juglandaceae	EN	17.8
<i>Osmanthus americana</i> (L.) Benth. & Hook.f. ex A. Gray	Oleaceae	NT	0.68
<i>Prunus rhamnoides</i> Koehne	Rosaceae	VU	23.9
<i>Quercus germana</i> Schltldl. & Cham.	Fagaceae	CR	18.1*
<i>Sideroxylon contrerasii</i> (Lundell) T.D. Penn.	Sapotaceae	VU	3.0
<i>Ulmus mexicana</i> (Liebm.) Planch.	Ulmaceae	EN	43.6
<i>Zanthoxylum melanostictum</i> Schltldl. & Cham.	Rutaceae	LC	0.43

¹ M. González-Espinosa, J. A. Meave, F.G. Lorea-Hernández, G. Ibarra-Manríquez and A. C. Newton (Eds.). 2011. The Red List of Mexican Cloud Forest Trees. Fauna & Flora International. UK. * This data requires updating.

We have also found flowering individuals of *Podocarpus matudae* Lundell, an endangered species restricted to cloud forest and we plan to collect fruits over the coming months. We have also acquired seedlings of *Platanus mexicana* Moric., a Near Threatened species found only on riverbanks which is a restricted habitat in Mexico but were not able to record the percentage of germination.

