

# Video – Three wild Caribbean plants on the verge of extinction

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by Lilibeth Serrano

0	USFWS bumper	
:6	Three wild Caribbean plants on the verge of extinction (title on screen)	<a href="#">Music by Free Play: Happy Way</a>
:10		American Caribbean Map- PR and VI in reference to Florida, South and Central America
	Narration Starts	
:14	The vivid red flowers of <a href="#">Gonocalyx conocarpum</a> hang like tiny bells throughout the Carite Commonwealth forests over 2,000 feet above sea level in Puerto Rico.	Plants in flower <a href="#">Gonocalyx conocarpum</a>
:25	Deep yellow <a href="#">Agave eggersiana</a> flowers stand on the arid coastal cliffs of the Island of St. Croix, USVI overlooking the Caribbean Sea.	<a href="#">Agave eggersiana</a>
:35	<a href="#">Varronia rupicola</a> petite white flowers surrounded by rough green leaves beautify low coastal shrub forests in southern Puerto Rico and Vieques Island.	<a href="#">Varronia rupicola</a>
:53	These tropical plants grow in very different and separate ecosystems throughout the American Caribbean and share the need for more protection.	American Caribbean -Map pin pointing populations
1:04	To conserve and protect these plants and the ecosystems upon which they depend, the Service is proposing to list <i>Agave eggersiana</i> and <i>Gonocalyx concolor</i> as <a href="#">endangered species</a> , and <i>Varronia rupicola</i> as a <a href="#">threatened species</a> under the Endangered Species Act.”	Graphic Federal Register/ ESA law
1:22	Multiple threats are putting pressure on these plants. Habitat loss, degradation and	Picture of Agave next to roads or in

	fragmentation are some of the primary threats.	residential areas. Pictures of housing development.
1:28	During installation of telecommunication towers, trimming and clearing vegetation caused the loss of <i>Gonocalyx</i> plants and left the area open for invasive species.	Pictures of towers/ vegetation cleared in <i>G. concolor</i> habitat.
1:43	The Service has also started to identify habitat that is essential for the conservation of these plants and we are proposing to designate 15 areas as critical habitat.”	Habitat and plant pictures
1:55	<i>Agave eggersiana</i> is commonly used for landscaping in St. Croix. Trimming and pruning these wild plants prevents them from reproducing. Also, recent declines at Manchenil Bay may be due to collection for ornamental purposes.	Pictures of Agave in landscapes, Pictures of Agave bulbils
2:16	Fire is not a natural event in subtropical dry or moist forest in the Caribbean so the vegetation is not adapted to it. Human induced fires could wipe out populations or create conditions that help invasive species over-compete with endemic and rare plants.	Pictures of <i>G concolor</i> habitat burnt. Pictures of wildfires
2:35	Many organizations are propagating, researching and conserving these plants. This proposal will allow the Service to intensify our partnership with organizations implementing conservation measures.	Slide with logos of organizations: U.S.V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, U.S. National Parks Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Kew Royal Botanical Gardens, the Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico.
2:50	To find a complete list of threats, more information about these plant and	ES Homepage Screen Shot

	opportunities for conservation visit us at <a href="http://www.fws.gov/Caribbean">www.fws.gov/Caribbean</a> .	Pictures of the flowers and habitat <a href="http://www.fws.gov/Caribbean">www.fws.gov/Caribbean</a>
3:09	<p>Produced and narrated by Lilibeth Serrano</p> <p>Closed Captioned by Jennifer Strickland</p> <p>Pictures Agave eggersiana Maritza Vargas, Omar Monsegur and C. Torres Gonocalyx concolor JP Zegarra and Carlos Pacheco Varronia eggersiana Omar Monsegur, Carlos Pacheco, Kew Fire Carlos Pacheco, Ana Román, Culebra fire crew 2005-2006 Music Happy Way / Have a Rastaday by <a href="http://freeplaymusic.com">freeplaymusic.com</a></p>	