

The genus Weingartia

Populations with a field number LB (I)

Ludwig Bercht

On my first trip through different parts of Bolivia in 2002, with my traveling companion Helmut Amerhauser, my goal was mainly to find and study populations of plants of the genus *Gymnocalycium*. Of course, other globular cacti grow there as well, such as in the Chaco region, fraileas and echinopsis and in the mountains, echinopsis, parodias, lobivias, mediolobivias, sulcorebutias, aylosteras and weingartias

to name a few. During the trip, but certainly afterwards, my interest in weingartias grew.

When I returned home, I collected literature, studied material in other collections and bought it when possible and also cultivated plants from seeds. Observations in the field and on plants grown at home are extremely important. I'd love to show you my collection sites in chronological (and numerical) order, provided they have received an LB field number.

LB 2428 - *W. neumanniana*

The plants grow west of Villazon along the road to Casira Grande at an altitude of 3,700 m. The soil is made of slate (shale rock). The brown body lies flat in the ground and is usually connected to a powerful taproot via a narrow neck. *Neowerdermannia vorwerkii* grows in the neighboring quartz zone.

At the moment, I use the name *W. neumanniana* for populations south of Tupiza (including populations from Argentina).



LB 2445 - *W. cintiensis*

This population is found on the RN 20, which goes from Pampa Mochara via Mal Paso and Impora to El Puente. At the time, I did not have the possibility of having the GPS measurements, but it was 8 kilometers by car before the intersection with the RN 1. The coordinates are approximately $21^{\circ}15,87' / 65^{\circ}14,57'$, altitude 2440 m.



LB 2448 - *W. westii*

The habitat of this weingartia is located on the RN 1 just north of Muyuquiri and about 19 km from Camargo. The altitude at which the plants were found was 3180 m. A subsequent visit to this site shows that the coordinates are $20^{\circ}29.16' / 65^{\circ}08.60'$.



LB 2449 - *W. westii*

These plants were found about 3 km south of the exit to Suquistaco. The altitude recorded in the log is 3380 m.



LB 2450 - *W. westii*

Just 2 km further north on the RN 1 and just before the exit for Suquistaco is the site of these weingartias. Altitude 3440 m.



LB 2451 - *W. westii*

About 5 km south of the junction near Padcoyo, we saw these plants growing with among others *Lobivia* at an altitude of 3350 m. If we had stopped and searched the nearby plain to Padcoyo, we would certainly have seen the common *cintias* there.



LB 2455 - *W. westii*

Still on the RN 1.8 km northwest of Padcoyo, therefore in the direction of Cuchu Ingenio, the population LB 2455 is located at an altitude of 3420 m. This discovery was further enlivened by the presence of *lobivias*, *parodias* and *Oreocereus*.



LB 2459 - *W. westii*

In a reasonable variety of other cactus species, this *W. westii* grows along the RN 1 to 7 km southeast of Hornos. The height at the site is 3450 m.



LB 2464 - *W. westii*

Cuchu Ingenio is the type-location for *W. westii*, which does not mean that it should automatically be there. In all cases, the current population was found 1 km west of Cuchu Ingenio at an altitude of 3740 m.



LB 2467 - *W. neocumingii* fa.

Near Pampa Soico, a few houses and buildings just south of Millares, nature has formed a slope which to the west connects with other mountains. Three species of globular cacti grow on this slope, namely *Gymnocalycium millaresii* (for me belonging to *G. pflanzii* subsp. *dorisiae*), *Echinopsis millarensis* and a weingartia. The elevation on the road is 2370 m. The coordinates are 19°26.32'/65°11.65'.



LB 2489 - *W. neocumingii* subsp. *pulquinensis* var. *hentzscheliana*

In a search southeast of Aiquile, Heinz Swoboda found two taxa, which then served as the basis for two new descriptions. One of them was discovered on rocks at Tuna Pampa which is little more than a few houses in the Rio Lagar valley, 38 km from Aiquile at 1750 m above sea level. Swoboda's field number is HS 158. In 2002, it was described by Helmut Amerhauser as *W. neocumingii* subsp. *pulquinensis* var. *hentzscheliana*.



LB 2491 - *W. neocumingii* subsp. *pulquinensis* var. *lagarpampensis*

Continuing through the Rio Lagar valley, 11 km away is the village of Lagar Pampa. Just outside the village on a steep slope above the Rio Lagar, Heinz Swoboda and Karl Augustin discovered a *parodia* later described as *P. augustinii*. But also a *weingartia* (HS 160), described in 2002 as *W. neocumingii* subsp. *pulquinensis* var. *lagarpampensis*. Its coordinates are 18°27.286 / 64°59.421, the altitude is 1585 m.



LB 2494

On the way back from Lagar Pampa to Aiquile, 22 km from Lagar Pampa, we discovered this population on slopes under trees at an altitude of 2290 m.

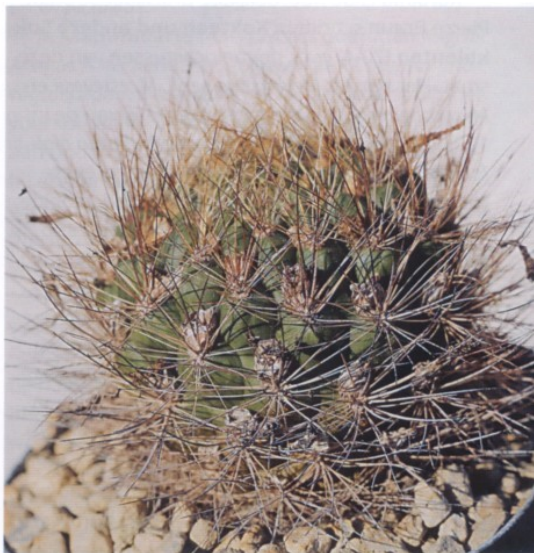
LB 2500

I found these plants 5 km west of Perereta on the RN 5, the road from Aiquile to Saipina, at an altitude of 1550 m, growing with an *echinopsis* and a *gymnocalycium*.



LB 2501

On a steep slope, 2 km east of Perez, these plants grow at an altitude of 1490 m. In addition to an echinopsis and a gymnocalycium, a notable variety on this site is *Parodia columnaris*.



LB 2509 - *W. pulquinensis*

The last documented weingartia during my trip in 2002 is this *W. pulquinensis*. The plants grow 6 km west of Saipina on the RN 5 on a hill not very practicable. Its altitude was 1430 m.



This article was published in **Succulenta** 99:1 (2020) (pp. 36-43).
Reproduced with the permission of the author and the editor.
Translation : SulcoPassion
