

# The genus Weingartia

## Populations with a field number LB (II)

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Three years after the first study trip to Bolivia, a new trip was prepared for October-November 2005. With my travel companion Herbert Thiele, many populations of cacti were found and photographed, for

the first time digitally. I also had access to a GPS device and the sites could be recorded accurately. Of course, different populations of *Weingartia* have again been found and documented.

### LB 2886 - *W. kargliana*

On the then unpaved RN 1, north of Cieneguillas, we found a good place to spend the night in a valley at the foot of the rocky slopes. After some research, we discovered weingartias ( $21^{\circ}22.023'S$   $65^{\circ}03.024'W$ ) in the gravel and a little further on *Parodia slabana*. The altimeter indicated 3,085 m. Both species were still hidden deep in the rocks; they had not yet awakened from their hibernation in October. At the moment, I consider these weingartias to be *W. kargliana*.



### LB 2891 - *W. cintiensis*

On the road from El Puente to Carrizal, about 6 km north of Carrizal, we saw this population growing with a *parodia*, probably *P. ritteri* (GPS 21°23.264'S 65°13.574'W). Without flowers and fruit remains, it was not always easy to tell the two types apart. The altitude was 2416 m.



### LB 2900 - *W. neumanniana*

This field number is synonymous with LB 2428. The coordinates noted are: 21° 57.801'S 65°45.134'W and an altitude of 3755 m.





### LB 2911 - *W. westii*

On the road that begins north of Santiago de Cotagaita and ends in Palca Grande, these plants were found before the road descended to the Rio Tumusla. They grow with a white-spined *Lobivia lateritia* and a parodia, probably an intermediate form between *P. maassii* and *P. obtusa*. Coordinates 20°41.473'Z 65°28.503'W and the altimeter indicated 3,007 m.



### LB 2919 - *W. cintiensis*

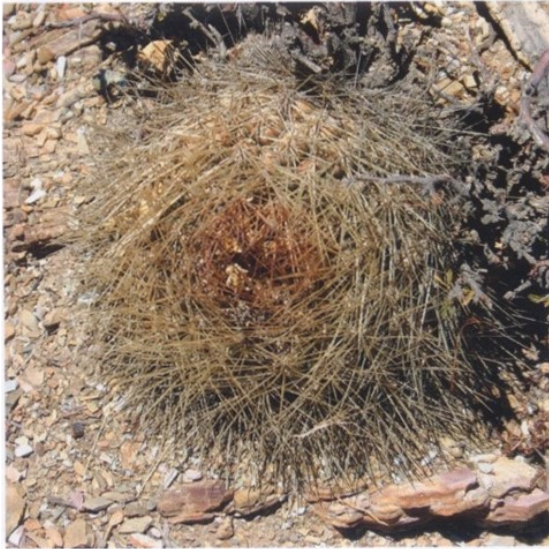
Just north of Palca Grande is a bridge over the Rio Camargo, the entrance to the so-called Culpina Basin. What was in 2005, a somewhat rickety wooden bridge, is now a sturdy concrete version. Immediately after the bridge the road goes up in zigzags, and it is not for the beautiful view of a large gin distillery. On stony slopes, *W. cintiensis*, *L. lateritia* and *P. roseoalba* var. *australis*. This field number is assigned to plants that grow specifically at 20°43.661'S 65°13.081'W at an altitude of 2492 m.





### LB 2925 - *W. westii*

When the Culpina Road has left behind its winding, tortuous mountain pass nature, gentle, stony slopes face north. From the road, the big thorny balls are quickly visible. These are partly *parodias*, but the *W. westii* plants are more impressive. The plants of the Culpina basin are sometimes classified in var. *culpinensis*, fortunately never officially registered. The GPS unit indicated 20°45.475S 65°04.137W at an altitude of 3172 m.



### LB 2938

On the already mentioned Culpina road, a secondary road climbs up to a transmission tower (at the exit, the altitude is 3145 m; the transmission tower is at 3775 m). Above 3400m I only found *Lobivia* and *Oreocereus*, but a little lower at 3310m I was more successful. Of course, again a form of *W. westii*, growing there with *P. maassii* var. *albescens*. Coordinates 20°44.336'S 65°06.747'W



### LB 2939

Seen from space, only about 200m from LB 2919, I saw weingartias that caught my attention. They are offsetting plants, but the appearance amazed me. For me, they had characteristics of both *W. westii* and *W. cintiensis*. A cross between the two species may have appeared here in the wild. Coordinates 20°43.611'S 65°12.955'W, altitude 2542 m.



### LB 2941 - *W. westii*

After a night at Hostal Cruz Huasa, where I find a warm welcome every time I want to spend the night in Camargo, we head north towards Padcoyo. We make a stop about 6 km outside the city, as we again saw weingartias, growing fraternally with *P. camargensis*. For this *W. westii* I noted 20°36.328'S 65°10.508'W, altitude 2528 m.



To be continued.

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This article was published in **Succulenta** 99:2 (2020) (pp. 84-88).  
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Translation : SulcoPassion

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