

The genus *Weingartia*

Populations with a field number LB (IV)

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In 2008, this is the seventeenth time that I have put my camping tent in my trunk, hang the camera around my neck and cheerfully take a plane to a country where cacti and other succulents live in wilderness.

This is my third trip to Bolivia, this time with my good friend Volker Schädlich from Spremberg (D). The first part of the trip crosses the area between Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Brazilian border. Then to the Bolivian highlands. Of course, this part of the trip is well prepared at home, but adaptations on the spot are part of such a trip. In the 160 or so habitats where we stop

and search for cacti, we can find weingartias on 34 of them. Some sites are familiar, but most are new.

We were really unlucky on this trip. My GPS device was stolen from the Villa Montes car wash and Volker had also lost his a few days earlier, so accurate search data was unfortunately not possible.

LB 3477 - *W. kargliana*

The first weingartia found on this trip was an old acquaintance, namely in the valley near Cieneguillas (LB 2886).



LB 3491 - *W. cintiensis*

From El Puente we followed the road on the east side of the Rio San Juan downstream until it was, at the time, almost impossible to continue by car. Four kilometers from El Puente bridge, the ground is pink-red sandstone, vaguely overgrown with shrubs. *W. cintiensis* grows here with *Parodia ritteri* and *Lobivia lateritia*.



LB 3498 - *W. neumanniana*

The site of *W. neumanniana* VS 473 had been recorded on a map during the preparation of the trip, and this habitat corresponding to this one, the coordinates of VS 473 can be used: 21°57.926'S 65°44.267'W. The land is flat, composed of schist and is located near the slope where LB 2428 is located on the road from Villazon to Berque / Casira Grande.



LB 3500 - *W. neumanniana*

This site is located one kilometer west of where LB 3498 grows. Growing together with forms of *Parodia maassii* and *Lobivia ferox*.



LB 3501 - *W. neumanniana*

This field number is a synonym of LB 2428. Other cactus species growing here are *Parodia maassii*, *Lobivia ferox*, *Maihueiopsis* and *Neowerdermannia vorwerkii*.



LB 3508 - *W. neumanniana*

About 6 km north of Berque, on the road to Talina, the site is made up of sand and crushed stone. It is for this reason that this *W. neumanniana* grows there.



LB 3530 - *W. pygmaea*

In the past, the route from Tupiza via the Pampa Mochara to Impora was of great importance due to the cement factories further afield in El Puente. Nowadays it is an attractive route for cactus lovers and other tourists. Halfway in Mal Paso, as the name suggests, there is a difficult passage (across a river). This population was found about 9 km east of it. *W. pygmaea* was first found here by Ritter in 1962, but it was not described by him until 1980. Its field number is FR 1102.



LB 3531 - *W. pygmaea*

Two kilometers after the previous stop, we stopped again; in addition to several other cactus species, *W. pygmaea* has also been found here. In both places, the ground is schist with crushed stone.



LB 3538 - *W. cintiensis*

Fourteen kilometers north of Impora is the site of LB 3538, obviously *W. cintiensis*. The schist soil typical of *W. pygmaea* and *W. neumanniana* has been replaced by other rock formations. A striking characteristic of *W. cintiensis* is the formation of shoots.

To be continued.



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