

**Impacts of Harvest on Populations of *Aechmea magdalenae*: Considering the Effects of Ecological and Human Variation**

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Conservation and sustainable management plans for wild-harvested species require analysis of population dynamics as well as consideration of the ecological and human contexts of harvest. We used matrix models combined with participatory research methodologies to examine the impact of harvest on the terrestrial bromeliad, *Aechmea magdalenae*, in Mexico. We illustrate that high levels of harvest may have surprisingly little impact on populations, and emphasize how ecological and economic impacts vary greatly between forest types and local harvest strategies. We use our data to test current methods for calculating maximum sustainable harvests, and suggest some solutions for improving their accuracy.