results in a constant breeze. The night humidity provides all the moisture the plant requires. The main threat to this plant's survival is air pollution.

Mount Casibito in the Dominican Republic is the home for *P. casabitoana*. Another epiphyte nourished by night humidity, it is similar in habit and ecology to *P. lignicola,* although twice as big. The plant has sword shaped leaves and white flowers. *P. casabitoana* is found in much deeper shade than *P. lignicola*, although direct sunlight is tolerated as well.

Features of the Genus *Pinguicula* from México

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Features of the Mexican *Pinguicula´*s will be discussed here in combination with colour slides taken in habitat during several field trips. Due to many recent publications of new species, half of the genus´s number (38) occur in the mountains of México. This has given the author a growing motivation to study these plants as he has done for the last ten years.

Geographical ranges of species and their habitats will be the main topics of the lecture, followed by a discussion of features different between herbarium specimens and living plants in taxonomy.

New Discoveries and Habitats of *Pinguicula* in México

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Editor's note: Dr. Lau was unfortunately not able to attend the conference;
we are nonetheless printing the abstract he submitted before the conference.

Having to contend with the epithet "King of Cactus", my first botanical outreach and love, I also added in the list of plant families attractive groups of plants like orchids, bromeliads, passion flowers, gesneriads, palms, cycads, agaves, Mexican asclepiads, crassulaceas and finally *Pinguicula*.

In 1974 in the course of climbing the highest mountain in the State of Oaxaca, Cerro Zempoatepetl, we climbed over very steep walls that were covered by a beautiful, yellow moss, probably related to *Sphagnum*. Out of the moss protruded a *P. moranensis*-related flower of deep red color, the only really red *Pinguicula* of a group that is almost always purple, growing at 2300 m altitude underneath pine and oak trees on almost perpendicular rocks an sheer walls. It was years later that Franz Fuchs from Linz, Austria, visited us and was aghast at looking at a wall in my garden that was covered with this plant. Several years ago, at a conference in Birmingham, England, the plants were sold for 16 Pounds Sterling a piece, which surprised me. Dr. Franz Speta has published the plant under the name *P. laueana*. When we continued on the road from Cerro Zempoatepetl to Zaragoza, we examined a huge rock in a curve of the dirt road. One of our boys spotted a strange-looking *Pinguicula* that was not *P. laueana*. Without alpine equipment we could not reach it and had to give up the discovery.

Santa Maria Yucuhiti, close to Santiago Nuyoo, Oaxaca, there is a locality on which one large triangular granitic rock has three different *Pinguicula* species, one on each wall. To get there, one has to pass the altitude of 3000 m. The area is often shrouded in fog. A most beautiful form is covering the south-east side densely, leaves as well as flowers with long spur, and another red color. Some of the flowers tended towards purple. Old leaves of oak covered some of the plants. The north side was covered with a *P. moranensis* form, the South West side showed another difficult to define species - ?*P. mirandae* - with flowers that are white with light purple edges. The winter rosette is quite small, almost invisible, but when the rainy season begins, in May-June, they triple in size, and become covered with tiny flies. Not far away, near Yosundua, there grows a very thin-leaved *Pinguicula* which forms new plants at the