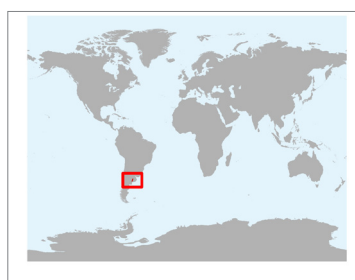




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Geographical range

Species of the Day: Pino Plateado

The **Pino Plateado** (Silver Pine), *Plantago bismarckii*, is a small gregarious shrub, generally considered to be 'Endangered', although it has not yet been submitted for formal categorization on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. It has long been considered as the flagship plant species of the Sierra de la Ventana mountain range.

Pino Plateado is restricted in range to a small area, and the best stands of this species are protected in the Parque Provincial Ernesto Tornquist. Due to its beautiful silver colour and its shape, it is a distinctive component of the local flora of this area, which is considered to be an island of biodiversity within the Pampas region in east-central Argentina. Its survival is threatened by an ever-increasing use of the area for tourism developments, as well as intense grazing by domestic cattle outside the protected area.

There have been no field studies relating to its population tendency, and little is known about its reproductive biology. Attempts made to cultivate this species outside of its natural area of occurrence have been unsuccessful.

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