

## DIVERSITY, DISTRIBUTION AND THREAT STATUS OF FABACEAE PLANTS IN COSTA RICA: A 135-YEAR HERBARIUM RECORD

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### INTRODUCTION

Fabaceae is one of the most abundant plant families in Costa Rica, with at least 136 genera and 593 species, many of which are agriculturally and ecologically important.

### OBJECTIVE

To analyze species distribution and collection efforts from the country's two main herbaria.



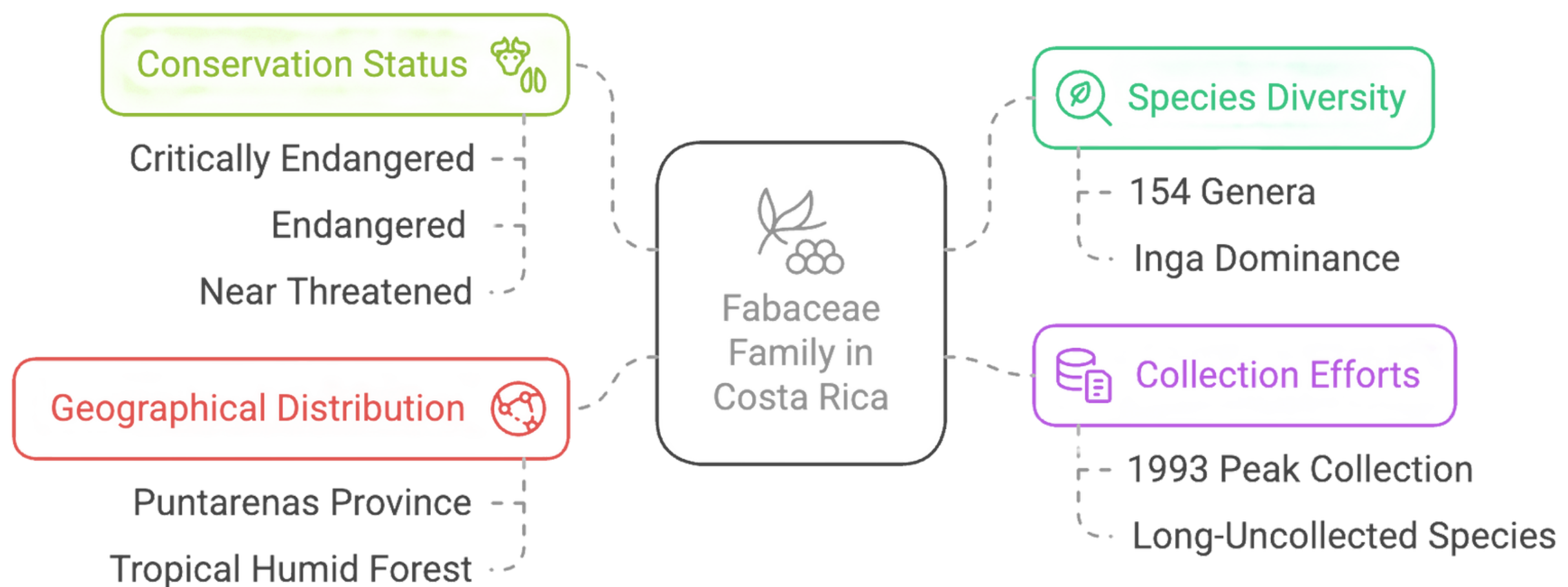
**SENNA FLOWER**

Illustrative image, Maciej Opaliński, Wikimedia Commons

### METHODOLOGY

Processing of herbarium records (1887–2022) from the University of Costa Rica (USJ) and the National Herbarium (CR).

## Fabaceae Diversity and Conservation in Costa Rica



### RESULTS

- Diversity: 154 genera, Inga most abundant.
- Collection Peak: 1993 (112 genera, 321 species).
- Highest Records: Puntarenas (117 genera, 406 species); most in Tropical Humid Forest.
- Threats: 5 critically endangered, 29 endangered, 21 near threatened.
- Taxonomic Gaps: 19 species uncollected for 40+ years.

### CONCLUSION

Fabaceae in Costa Rica exhibit high diversity with a spatial bias toward Puntarenas and the Tropical Humid Forest. The identification of long-uncollected and threatened species highlights the need for conservation and further taxonomic research.