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Area recovery and characteristic orchids conservation “*in situ*” at San Ángel stony terrain, Mexico, D.F.: Reservoir area and Ecological pathway at South Sciences and Humanities Educational Center (SSHEC) within the National Autonomous University of Mexico

This work pretends to contribute to the conformation of a Global Strategy for Orchid Conservation through a real experience developed at an Educational Center, located inside one of the largest and populated cities on earth, Mexico City, proposing as a basic issue the recovery of misused and deteriorated green areas and its usage for vegetable species conservation “*in situ*”, particularly zone characteristic orchid species. As a complementary action it is proposed to promote an Environmental Education toward Conservation of mentioned species.

Southward of Mexico City, immerse in a zone known as “San Angel Stony Terrain”, it is located South Sciences and Humanities Educational Center (SSHEC), subsidiary baccalaureate stream of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Both the Educational Center and the University Campus, were built on the lava thrown out from Xitle volcano, which erupted 2500 years ago rendering a microclimates and microhabitats mosaic, a worldwide unique ecosystem, due to both its diversity and endemic species amount. The vegetal community that characterizes it is Senecionetum praecosis, reporting inside it 22 terrestrial orchid species, and one is endemic (*Bletia urbana*). Until 1940 this bush zone occupied 40 Km², but by the end of year 2000 it has been reduced beyond 90 %, thence put many of its characteristic species in extinction danger. SSHEC occupies an extent of 99242 m², out of 39039 m² (40 %) are designated as green areas; these areas has been reduced or are very disturb. In an effort both to recover and conserve native vegetation areas and to promote typical orchid species conservation “*in situ*”, it was given a decree, in year 2000, by which a surface of 2710 m² was declared as an Ecological Reservoir area and herein 6 Orchid species (*Bletia campanulata*, *Brachystele polyantha*, *Deiregyne pyramidalis*, *Dichromanthus aurantiacus*, *Habenaria novemfida*, and *Sarcoglottis schaffneri*) has been detected, studied and protected, inclusive it has been introduced here *Malaxis myurus* orchid species from recovers which involve SSHEC’s professors and students within university campus, yielding excellent results. Likewise Didactic Strategies has been design and apply in order to knowledge, to value and to preserve these orchid species.