The occurrence of the globally rare *Yucca cernua* (Agavaceae) is documented in Louisiana for the first time from an isolated region of Vernon Parish.

**KEY WORDS:** Agavaceae, endemic, isolated, Louisiana, rare plant, Vernon Parish, *Yucca.*
Fleming Prairies which are highly restricted and globally rare prairies that follow the Fleming Formation paralleling Highway 63 between Jasper and Burkeville, Texas and eastward into Vernon Parish, Louisiana.

Missouri coneflower is a tallgrass prairie disjunct plant in Louisiana and has only been documented in Natchitoches and Vernon Parishes in Louisiana (Kartesz 2015, USDA 2021). The other commonly associated flora documented at the *Yucca cernua* site in Louisiana included *Ambrosia trifida*, *Ambrosia artemisifolia*, *Buchnera americana*, *Callirhoe involucrata*, *Coreopsis* sp., *Eriogonum* sp., *Linum* sp., *Monarda* sp., *Paspalum floridanum*, *P. plicatum*, *Polytaenia nuttallii*, *Rubus* sp., and *Schizachyrium scoparium*. This assemblage of associated flora typically signifies that the former landscape that *Y. cernua* occurred in was an herbaceous prairie or pine savanna landscape.

Figure 1. *Yucca cernua* in flower and *Rudbeckia missouriensis* in background in Vernon Parish, Louisiana. Photo taken by Colton McKee.

Figure 2. *Yucca cernua* inflorescence in Vernon Parish, Louisiana. Photo taken by Colton McKee.

Figure 3. *Yucca cernua* basal leaves in Vernon Parish, Louisiana. Photo taken by Colton McKee.
Voucher specimen: **Louisiana. Vernon Parish:** From Evans High School off Hwy 111 in Evans, Louisiana, north on Hwy 111 for ca. 0.4 mi. to Burrell Harvey Rd. from jct of Burrell Harvey Rd. and Hwy 111 north on Burrell Harvey Rd. ca. 2.4 mi. to utility line crossing Burrell Harvey Rd. on east side of Burrell Harvey Rd., 8 July 2020, *Colton McKee* No. 1 (BAYLU).

Future investigation of this recently discovered *Yucca cernua* site is warranted. This would include documenting the extent of the population, information about reproduction, suggestions to future management, and locating additional potential sites in the adjacent region.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We want to thank Hancock Forest Management for access to the site and documenting this plant species of greater conservation need.

**LITERATURE CITED**


