

DUNE CONSERVATION - Eradication of Century Plant (*Agave americana*) and or elimination of its flowers



Century Plant
Agave americana

This is a perennial, resistant plant which grows in arid or dune terrain. It has 2 cm-long wavy or serrated spines along the edges of the leaves.

These can be up to 2 cms long.

It blooms only once towards the end of its vegetative cycle. It then produces a stem of from eight to ten meters high with clusters of greenish-yellow flowers.

It is still cultivated for the textile fibre, known as pita, in its leaves, which is used to make ropes, nets and other objects. Due to its colonising potential, it is a serious threat to the native species in our ecosystems. For this reason this species has been included in the Spanish Catalogue of Invasive Exotic Species

