

Collecting sites in the dry part include Peña Miller, Camargo and Maguey Verde. The humid face was represented by Pinal de Amoles, Ahuacatlán and Jalpan. A locality (Santa Inés) in a contiguous mountain was selected for comparison. An extensive description of the study area was presented elsewhere (León, 1986), and a brief description of the sites, using Holdridge's life zones, is as follows:

Peña Miller (21° 10' Lat. N, 99° 05' Long. W; 1,400 m) is located in the arid Mexican Plateau, with 22°C in mean annual temperature and 482 mm as mean annual rainfall. The scrubby vegetation is classified as a Tropical Premontane Thorn Woodland with *Morkillia mexicana* and *Acacia sororia*. Tracts of microphyll scrub are found in some areas, with *Acacia vernicosa* and *Fouquieria splendens*. The only trees in the area are located along a branch of the nearby Extorax river.

Camargo (21° 06' Lat. N, 99° 43' Long. W; 1,850 m) is characterized by a Tropical Premontane Thorn Forest, with *Neopringlea integrifolia* and *Mimosa* as dominant plants. Trees were virtually absent. The mean annual temperature is 22.3°C and no data is available on rainfall.

Maguey Verde (21° 07' Lat. N, 99° 41' Long. W; 2,290 m) is a vegetation transition zone. A patchy forest of *Pinus cembroides* (pinyon) and *Juniperus flaccida* in the lower limit of this forest intermingles with a thorn forest. Mean annual temperature is 17°C. Deep canyons and abandoned mercury mines are characteristic of the site. Mean annual rainfall is 600 mm.

Pinal de Amoles (21° 07' Lat. N, 99° 37' Long. W; 2,650 m) is the highest locality in the transect, characterized by a Lower Montane Moist Forest, with abundance of pines (*Pinus patula*, *P. teocote*, *P. montezumae* and *P. pseudostrobus*). In the lower stratum of the forest, scrub species such as *Baccharis lancifolia*, *Senecio hartwegi* and *Cestrum flavescens* are found. The pine forest presents an upper canopy of 25 m. An oak forest is found nearby.

Ahuacatlán (21° 14' Lat. N, 99° 34' Long. W; 1,140 m) is located in the eastern slope of the range. Mean annual temperature and rainfall are of 22.3°C and 964 mm, respectively. A Tropical Premontane Dry Forest, conspicuously taller than the vegetation found in the western slope, is the dominant vegetation type. Common species are *Lysiloma divaricata*, *Bursera simaruba*, *Diospyros palmeri*, *Pseudobombax ellipticum*, *Capparis incana*, and *Pithecellobium dulce*. Along streams, trees such as *Platanus mexicanus*, *Vitex mollis*, and *Populus* form a gallery forest.

Jalpan (21° 14' Lat. N, 99° 30' Long. W; 840 m) is located at the lower part of the eastern slope, and the vegetation type is a Tropical Very Dry Forest. Mean annual temperature is 26°C and annual rainfall is 880.7 mm. Vegetation elements are deciduous and reach a medium height of 10 to 12 m, and include *Lysiloma divaricata*, *Pseudobombax ellipticum*, and *Erythrina flabelliformis*.

Santa Inés (21° 10' Lat. N, 99° 05' Long. W; 1,420 m) is characterized by a Tropical Dry *Quercus* (oak) Forest. Mean annual temperature is 25.3°C and mean annual rainfall reaches 1,379 mm. Common plant species include several species of