

New species of *Encholirium* (Bromeliaceae) from Brazil

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Habitat of *Encholirium agavoides* (Image: Daniela Zappi, RBG Kew)

(PhysOrg.com) -- Two new bromeliads discovered as part of the Toucan Cipó Project in Minas Gerais.

The two new species of *Encholirium* (Bromeliaceae) were found during fieldwork for the Toucan Cipó Project, in the Serra do Cipó, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

They occur only on quartz/sandstone rocks above 1000 m altitude, and the populations are found within 10-12 km of each other. *Encholirium*

agavoides has striking silvery leaves and a small, agave-like habit while *Encholirium ctenophyllum* can be distinguished by its narrow, comb-like leaves.

These discoveries were made in the course of a project aiming to increase knowledge and awareness of the exceptionally diverse flora of one of [Brazil](#)'s 'biodiversity hotspots' and to promote the establishment of new protected areas in the region.

Provided by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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