Join us for Tropilunch!!

New insight into the evolutionary history of the complex Andean genus *Polylepis* (Rosaceae: Sanguisorbeae) and its implications for conservation and management

Talk by Claudia Segovia
PhD Candidate
Biology Department

October 14th
12:45-1:45pm
Grinter 376

Biography:
Claudia obtained her bachelor’s degree in biology at the “Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador” and her Master of Science degree in Environmental and Plant Biology at the Ohio University. In 2008 she started a PhD in the Biology Department at the University of Florida. At UF her research centers on the Andean páramos, high elevation ecosystems with large number of endemic, and threatened species under human pressure. The tree genus *Polylepis* is the dominant vegetation of the Andean páramos. However, Polylepis forests continue disappearing at alarming rate due to population growth, and unsustainable cultural traditions. Claudia’s research is focused on the genetic composition of these Andean Forests as essential component of the comprehensive conservation planning in Ecuador and the Andean Region.

*Tropilunch is a weekly seminar run by graduate students from the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program. It provides a forum for a range of discussions and presentations related to TCD work and research. Students are provided with an opportunity to present and discuss their research projects with peers and faculty. In addition, discussion sessions on issues of current interest are also held. Visiting scholars and conservation practitioners also participate when available. It is held every Tuesday at 12:45 p.m. in Grinter 376.*