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Araucaria araucana and *Nothofagus* forest in the Conguillio National Park (Chile)

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via V. Di Marco 43, 90143 Palermo, Italy
www.biodiversityjournal.com
biodiversityjournal@gmail.com

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The Parque Nacional Conguillío, Chile. The Parque Nacional Conguillío occupies 60.832 hectares in a mountainous area in Central Chile (Araucanía Region, Chilean Andes). An active volcano (Volcán Lailima) lies in the middle of the park. The last eruption happened in 2008 and destroyed large portions of the surrounding forests. The vegetation is characterized by the presence of an impressive forest of *Nothofagus*: coigüe (*Nothofagus dombeyi*), roble (*Nothofagus obliqua*) and rauli (*Nothofagus alpina*) (Nothofagaceae) mixed to several *Araucaria araucana*. Some gigantic trees (both *Nothofagus* and *Araucaria*) are found there. The volcanic landscape and the presence of several *Araucarias* gives the area a prehistoric look so that the park was the filming location of the 1999 BBC documentary “Walking with Dinosaurs”.

Alberto Ballerio. Viale Venezia 45, 25123 Brescia, Italy;
e-mail: alberto.ballerio@aballerio.it (photo A. Ballerio)



A lonely *Araucaria araucana* growing on an old lava flow