

Review of: "Ecological diversity, structure and exploitation of rattan stands according to a disturbance gradient around the Nkoltang forest, Estuary province of Gabon"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I must commend the effort invested in the research and writing up of the manuscript. It's an interesting read and a valuable addition to knowledge geared towards understanding the Mangroves of Africa. I have suggested some modifications to the manuscript in the attached pdf. Generally, some sentences need rephrasing and adding more details to communicate clearly. Most paragraphs are too short. Can you modify your writing to have a better flow of linking sentences?

Title: I have suggested modifying the title to "Diversity and structure of rattan stands along a disturbance gradient in the Nkoltang forest, Gabon," but this is up to you.

Abstract: The abstract should start with an introductory sentence before moving on to talk about the study area and the objective. You also have to make your methodology a bit more direct to make reading seamless. I have suggested some modifications in the attached pdf.

Introduction: The first paragraph of your introduction should be linked to the broader ecological significance of the research. It would be helpful to know how the 600 species of rattan contribute to the ecosystem. Some of what was written in the second paragraph should go to the first paragraph (see the attached documents).

The discussion is a bit lengthy and could be more focused. The first paragraph should be removed, and part of it should be added to the conclusion.