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.

The study provides a significant contribution to our understanding of rattan stands along a disturbance gradient surrounding the Nkoltang forest. The data could be more effectively utilized, and a more comprehensive description of the statistical methods employed is necessary. Below I leave some comments and suggestions.

You used the Tukey test to test a hypothesis, so this hypothesis may be clearer in the introduction, what kind of differences you expected among the areas?

The information in the figures needs to be translated into English.

In Figure 1, indicating the location of the area on the map of Africa would help readers from other countries.

I believe that data analysis can go beyond the Tukey test. Perhaps a multivariate analysis of variance such as ANOSIM or PERMANOVA could be used to check if the variation in species composition between areas is significant. Even a Cluster analysis to assess the similarity between areas.

Could you explain better the choice of the statistical test and why you performed the normality test and used the non-parametric test, for example?

In the materials and methods, it is mentioned that parameters were compared using analysis of variance to assess variation in abundance between areas: ecological diversity, composition, distribution, farm status (growth), and health, according to a Tukey multiple comparison test. However, I only saw the results of this analysis in relation to species abundance.