

# 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 manuscript entitled: **"Ecological diversity, structure and exploitation of rattan stands according to a disturbance gradient around the Nkoltang forest, Estuary province of Gabon"** is interesting and is in the scope of the journal. This article is well-written, addresses an important topic, and provides data on the ecological diversity of rattan. Knowing the diversity of forests is essential to better appreciate their ecosystem roles, such as climate change. This article is well-written, but there are a number of issues with the illustrations (figures), results, and discussion that need to be clarified/addressed. Below are more specific comments by section.

## Illustrations:

Figure 1: If the title is in English, all the captions are in French. Can the authors put them in English?

Figure 2: Translate it into English.

Figure 3: Translate it into English.

Figure 4: Translate it into English.

Figure 5: Translate it into English.

## Results:

The authors worked at three sites; in their results, they counted a total of 683. Is it possible to have the distribution of species in the different sites?

What is the distribution in the different sites? This precision is essential to appreciate the impact of anthropogenic pressure on the diversity of rattan.

## All illustrations are in French; can the authors put them in English?

**Notice:** If the article is interesting, improvements, in particular on the presentation of the results, are necessary. That's why I propose corrections and answers to certain questions be made before the article is accepted for publication.

