

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

A. O. Uzoma

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Title: Adequate

Abstract: Precise and informative

Introduction: Adequate introduction

Results: Adequate and precise presentation of results. However, in some cases, results were presented in the present tense, which should never be. Bar charts were not supposed to be without error bars to ascertain the levels of significant differences.

Discussion: Quite thorough, except that the authors were mixing up statements of facts with their research findings. Statement of facts can be presented in the present tense or present continuous tense, but research findings are presented in the past tense. Some literature citations should be upgraded to include very recent literature.

Conclusion: Quite concise and adequate

References: Except for foundational references, old references should be removed. Ten references in the text were not captured in the reference pages. They are as follows: Brink *et al.* (2012), Kamga & Ly (2020), Peters (1997), Masum *et al.* (2017b), Koumba *et al.* (2018), Ondh-obame (2020), Doucet (2023), Agbani *et al.* (2018), Deguene (2020), and Fongnzossie *et al.* (2019). There were also references in the reference pages that were not in the text. They should all be reconciled.

Editorial corrections: Quite a few editorial defects. Page justifications are poor.

Decision: The manuscript is publishable after effecting minor corrections as pointed out.