
Trees and treelets species in different light micro-sites in a Semideciduous Seasonal Forest in Gália - SP

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Abstract

Tropical Forest studies elucidate the importance of understanding the light conditions preferred by species and therefore the regeneration process and community dynamics. We have described tree species distribution, with DBH > 4,8cm, by indirect light categories in a Semideciduous Seasonal Forest at Gália-SP. The method used here describe ten (10) indirect light categories, corresponding to the position that each individual can occupy under the Forest (gap, understory, canopy) and to the types of cover where they can be under of under intense light incidence, under deciduous trees or under evergreen trees.

To correlate obtained data for the ecological groups, every species were classified into pioneers, early successional species, late successional species and non-classified, according to available literature. We sampled 10.696 tree specimens, represented by 640 pioneers of 28 different species, 2.623 early successional species of 38 species, 7356 late successional species of 51 species and 77 non-classified specimens of 28 different species. Some pioneer species were found only under intense light incidence (*Alchornea glandulosa*, *Anadenanthera colubrina*, *Heliocarpus americanus* and *Trema micrantha*). Some early successional species occurred only under light incidence or lighted understory (*Jacaranda micrantha*, *Peltophorum dubium*, *Sequiera floribunda* e *Zeyheria tuberculosa*), and one late successional species (*Myroxylon peruiferum*) occurred only on the canopy layer or understory shadow (*Jacaranda micrantha*, *Peltophorum dubium*, *Sequiera floribunda* e *Zeyheria tuberculosa*). This method allows the understanding of tree species distribution through the distinct light micro-sites, although during the data interpretation is essential to consider the local disturbance history and the importance of the light factor on the definition of the species distribution. Repetitions of this method over the same spot during time and in different Forest formations will bring more trustful data about species ecological role and distributions patterns according to light regimes.

Key-words: light dynamics, ecological groups, permanent plot

FICHA CATALOGRÁFICA

Dados Internacionais de Catalogação na Publicação (CIP)

DIVISÃO DE BIBLIOTECA E DOCUMENTAÇÃO
- ESALQ/USP

Destefani, Ana Claudia Costa

Espécies arbusto-arbóreas em diferentes micro-sítios de luz numa floresta Estacional Semidecidual no município de Gália -SP / Ana Claudia Costa Destefani. - - Piracicaba, 2005.

260 p.

Dissertação (Mestrado) Escola Superior de Agricultura Luiz de Queiroz, 2006.

1. Árvore florestal 2. Classificação de planta 3. Ecologia Florestal 4. Efeito da luz 5. Espécie florestal 6. Florestas tropicais 7. Gália - SP I. Título

CDD 634.90913