



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Research in Agriculture and Forestry
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJRAF_42038
Title of the Manuscript:	Assessment of Woody Species Diversity in Different Ecological Zones of Taraba State, Nigeria: A Strategy for Conservation
Type of the Article	Original research paper

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of **lack of Novelty**, provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer s comment	Author s comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<p>II. MATERIALS AND METHODS</p> <p>Please sort the subtitles of this section as follows:</p> <p>2.1 Study area or Study site</p> <p>2.2 Data collection and analysis</p> <p>In the determination of similarity coefficients of the ecosystems, the authors do not specify with clarity the measurements in height, trunk diameter and trunk area, the latter was not addressed in the methodology. It does not mention the calculations of affinity coefficients (abundance, frequency and dominance) of the timber species, nor does it mention the importance value of the species.</p> <p>It is not specified the purpose of the Shannon diversity index calculations.</p> <p>2.3 Statistical Analysis</p> <p>It does not specify the variables on which the ANOVA was applied, neither mentioned the type of ANOVA.</p> <p>IV. RESULTS</p> <p>Figure 2 corresponds to the number of species, genus and family; however these results do not refer to the density of woody species. It is important to show the results on the frequency, abundance and density of timber species in each ecosystem as well as demonstrate the value of importance according to Sorenson.</p> <p>The authors talk about timber species from 3 forest ecosystems and their composition on both genus and families; however they don t show the list of species with their values of importance.</p> <p>Results on any of the growth variables (height, diameter, diameter at breast height) were not reported.</p> <p>Comparisons of species diversity, between and within ecological zones in the study were carried out without specifying the components of the ecosystems as well as the elements responsible for this diversity.</p> <p>The discussion is concordant with the results and the bibliography is adequate. The conclusion is very short and not very informative.</p> <p>In summary, the issue about the ecological diversity of timber species is one of great relevance, however, there are missed important aspects in the methodology section, such as lack of clarity in the growth variables to measure and lack of the species importance values. The results are adequate only at the local level. From my point of view they do not contribute to new knowledge in the topic of management and conservation of plant communities.</p>	<p>The study focused on diameter only hence, it is the major determinant of Species diversity. Important value index was considered in terms of ecological value, economic value was ignored. The purpose of Shannon diversity calculations reflects on the objectives in the introduction.</p> <p>Report on woody species composition (height and DBH) is an independent research paper.</p>
Minor REVISION comments	<p>Abstract: The authors need to clarify if the quantity of 3760 individual woody stands (from 60, 34 and 32 species) is the average number for all ecosystems or per ecosystem. There is no mention in the abstract about the determination of the diversity of the ecosystems by calculating the richness and Shannone's index of diversity; please add.</p> <p>Key words: You may add: Richness of species, Index of diversity.</p> <p>INTRODUCTION:</p> <p>There is a lack of information in the Introduction about the exploitation, production and</p>	<p>All the corrections were effected here.</p>



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	commercialization of wood in Nigeria. It is also important to mention the names of main species overexploited by the community. The introduction also lacks information about reforestation and deforestation in the area.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		