

## **SYMPOSIUM 9: ECOLOGY OF NEOTROPICAL AND PALEOTROPICAL DRY FORESTS**

**Bonito, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012 (Wednesday)**

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In the drier tropical areas around the World different tree and shrub communities are found, which are variously known as Miombo, Caatinga, Cerradão, Selva Baja Caducifolia, among others names. Many of these forest communities have been grouped under the concept of tropical deciduous forest (TDF or seasonally dry tropical forest). Among these TDFs, there are important differences not only in physiognomy, phenology and floristic composition, but also in their ecological drivers. For example, the occurrence of fire as well as the variation in precipitation levels and duration of the rainy season can be decisive in the particular ecology of each of these systems. However, few efforts have been made to comprehensively evaluate the main similarities and differences of these ecosystems for the correct drawing of conclusions regarding their ecology. The aim of this symposium is to present studies concerning the ecology and floristics of dry forests of Africa, Asia and the Americas in order to discuss the main similarities and differences. Particularly, this comparison is crucial in the context of the future climate changes and the accelerated rates of destruction of the original TDFs, to develop common strategies for conservation and restoration. In this symposium, we include research in several dry forests regarding floristics, reproductive biology, succession and restoration ecology. We will close the symposium with a discussion on the ecology that shares dry forests of the World.

### **TALKS (Room Terena, 14h00-18h00)**

14h00-14h15 (S09.OC.01) **Analyzing the boundaries between Nearctic and Neotropical floras: biogeographical insights from the tropical dry forest of southern Mexico.** *Eduardo Alberto Pérez-García*

14h15-14h30 (S09.OC.02) **Natural and manipulated succession in a Mexican dry forest: recovering functional biodiversity.** *Cristina Martinez-Garza*

14h30-14h45 (S09.OC.03) **Fragmentation impacts on reproduction, pollination and genetic diversity in tropical forest's trees.** *Fernando Rosas*

14h45-15h00 (S09.OC.04) **The potential for the maintenance of native biological diversity in agricultural systems of a seasonally dry tropical region of Mexico.** *Jorge A Mave*

15h00-15h15 (S09.OC.05) **Arthropod communities, vegetation structure and seasonality in a Mexican tropical dry forest.** *Consuelo Bonfil*

15h15-15h30 (S09.OC.06) **Plant communities in a forest-savanna complex of north-central Nigeria, a comparison with dry deciduous forests of central India.** *Sonali Saha*

### *Coffee Break*

16h30-16h45 (S09.OC.07) **Tree floristic, structure and functional groups variations in relation to successional stages and soil properties in a tropical dry forests of southeastern Brazil.** *Yule Roberta Ferreira Nunes*

16h45-17h00 (FS04.P.51) **Influence of soil physical properties on plant richness of the Mussununga ecosystem, Brazil.** *João Meira Neto*

17h00-17h15 (S09.OC.09) **Spatio-temporal dynamics of insects in a Brazilian tropical dry forest.** *Frederico Neves*

17h15-17h30 (S09.OC.10) **Regeneration of ecosystem functions during succession in a Brazilian tropical dry forest: comparative importance of plant community composition and leaf traits.** *Mário Marcos do Espírito Santo*

17h30-17h45 (S09.OC.11) **Alternative techniques to restore Cerrado and dry forests of Brazil.** *Daniel Vieira*

17h45-18h00 (S09.OC.12) **Challenges of restoration of dry forest Caatinga.** *José Alves Siqueira Filho*

### **POSTERS (Karuha Space, 15h30-16h30)**

S02.P.01. **Evaluation of the successional dynamics of tropical dry forests of inter-Andean valley of the Magdalena river for sustainable management (Colombia).** *Nathaly Rodríguez*

S02.P.02. **Human disturbance increases Euphorbiaceae populations and leads to high community similarity in Brazilian Caatinga.** *Kátia Fernanda Rito Pereira*