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Abstract

A floristic study of a semi-arid zone of the upper Tehuantepec river basin of the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, is presented. This is a zone of tropical deciduous forests, patches of xerophytic scrubland at low altitudes and, of lesser extent toward the mountains, oak and oak-pine woodlands. The flora studied consists of 449 vascular plant species. This diversity represents 272 genera in 89 families. Only nine families represent 52.8% of the species, the most prominent being Leguminosae, Compositae and Cactaceae. Fourteen species (3.12%) are seemingly endemic to the zone. Five species are protected by Mexican laws (NOM-059-ECOL-2001), and three others ought to be studied to learn whether they deserve protective status as several authors have proposed.

Keywords

flora, vegetation, tropical deciduous forest, Tehuantepec river basin,

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