

Vegetation Database East Africa

Andreas Hemp

Abstract: Since 1991, nearly 1800 plots in all vegetation formations of East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania with focus on the Kilimanjaro) were established using the method of Braun-Blanquet (1964). Inside the highly complex und structured montane forests the study included for the first time in tropical regions all vegetation layers (herbs, shrubs, trees, lianas and epiphytes). On the mountains of Tanzania these plots are equipped with data loggers recording climatic parameters. Aim of the database: classification and vegetation map of East Africa (a detailed map of Kilimanjaro is already prepared); reconstruction of vegetation and climate history of East Africa (in collaboration with studies of flightless *Saltatoria* and palaeobotany); analysis of diversity patterns along altitudinal gradients; providing baseline data for the DFG research unit KiLi (FOR 1246). This report describes the available content in the vegetation-plot database of the Vegetation Database East Africa (GIVD ID AF-00-004).

Keywords: altitudinal gradient; Kilimanjaro; tropical montane forest; vegetation history East Africa.

GIVD Database ID: AF-00-004		Last update: 2012-05-08	
Vegetation Database East Africa			
Scope: Vegetation analysis in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania. Diversity patterns along altitudinal gradients, baseline data for the new DFG research unit KiLi on Kilimanjaro, as well as for a palaeobotanical DFG project in Tanzania.			
Status: ongoing capture		Period: 1991-2012	
Database manager(s): Andreas Hemp (andreas.hemp@uni-bayreuth.de)			
Owner: Andreas Hemp			
Web address: [NA]			
Availability: according to a specific agreement		Online upload: no	Online search: no
Database format(s): [NA]		Export format(s): [NA]	
Publication: [NA]			
Plot type(s): normal plots		Plot-size range: 5-1,000 m ²	
Non-overlapping plots: 1,850		Estimate of existing plots: [NA]	Completeness: [NA]
Total plot observations: 1,850		Number of sources: 1	Valid taxa: 3,400
Countries: ET: 2.0%; KE: 5.0%; TZ: 93.0%			
Forest: 35% — Non-forest: aquatic: 1%; semi-aquatic: 5%; arctic-alpine: 8%; natural: 26%; semi-natural: 8%; anthropogenic: 16%			
Guilds: all vascular plants: 100%			
Environmental data: altitude: 100%; slope aspect: 100%; slope inclination: 100%; soil depth: 100%; surface cover other than plants (open soil, litter, bare rock etc.): 5%; soil pH: 20%; other soil attributes: 100%			
Performance measure(s): cover: 100%			
Geographic localisation: GPS coordinates (precision 25 m or less): 90%			
Sampling periods: 1990-1999: 42.0%; 2000-2009: 55.0%; 2010-2019: 3.0%			
Information as of 2012-07-12; further details and future updates available from http://www.givd.info/ID/AF-00-004			

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