

Vegetation Database of the Hyrcanian Area

Alireza Naqinezhad

Abstract: The Hyrcanian (Caspian) area located in the north of Iran comprises a narrow band of temperate deciduous forests and is contiguous with a larger forest region extending through the Caucasus to eastern Turkey. These forests are covering the north-facing slopes of the Alborz mountain range and extend from the northwest to the northeast of Iran with an area of about 19,000 km². Generally, the Hyrcanian area ranges from cool deciduous-lowland forests towards cool deciduous-mountain and timberline forests. The flora and vegetation of the Hyrcanian forests have been studied during the last half of century and comparative studies on the ecology of forest communities in the area are increasing. However, there is no comprehensive database on the whole area. The Vegetation Database of the Hyrcanian Area (GIVD ID AS-IR-003) aims at providing a preliminary database for future comprehensive vegetation analysis.

Keywords: Caspian; Hyrcanian forest; relevé data.

GIVD Database ID: AS-IR-003		Last update: 2012-05-09	
Vegetation Database of the Hyrcanian Area			
Scope: The Caspian forests (Hyrcanian district) extend in an arc along the southern shore of the Caspian Sea from the Talysh region of Azerbaijan, NW Iran to the westernmost boundaries of Khorassan province, NE Iran. The area covers approximately 50,000 km ² , located within the Iranian provinces Gilan, Mazandaran, and Golestan. It possesses a closed-canopy deciduous forest, unlike the arid to semi-arid landscape throughout most of Iran.			
Status: emerging		Period: 1964-2012	
Database manager(s): Alireza Naqinezhad (a.naqinezhad@umz.ac.ir)			
Owner: Alireza Naqinezhad (private)			
Web address: [NA]			
Availability: [NA]		Online upload: [NA]	Online search: [NA]
Database format(s): Excel		Export format(s): Excel	
Publication: [NA]			
Plot type(s): normal plots		Plot-size range: 100-400 m ²	
Non-overlapping plots: 100		Estimate of existing plots: [NA]	Completeness: [NA]
Total plot observations: 100		Number of sources: [NA]	Valid taxa: [NA]
Countries: IR: 100.0%			
Forest: [NA] — Non-forest: [NA]			
Guilds: all vascular plants: 100%			
Environmental data: [NA]			
Performance measure(s): [NA]			
Geographic localisation: [NA]			
Sampling periods: [NA]			
<i>Information as of 2012-07-12; further details and future updates available from http://www.givd.info/ID/AS-IR-003</i>			

Alireza Naqinezhad (a.naqinezhad@umz.ac.ir)

Department of Biology, Faculty of Basic Sciences, University of Mazandaran, Babolsar, IRAN.