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Dr. Ana Claudia Delciellos
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Rio de Janeiro, 06 de março de 2019

Dear Dr. Delciellos,

Please find attached the manuscript entitled “**Negative influence of low rainfall levels on fruit ripening of *Miconia calvescens* DC. (Melastomataceae Juss.)**”, by Mariana Abrahão and Maria Alice S. Alves that we would like to be considered for publication in *Oecologia Australis*. Despite the relatively extensive information on reproductive phenology of plant species, the influence of abiotic factor such as rainfall levels on fruit development remains understudied. *Miconia calvescens* is an important resource for frugivore species, due to its high availability of fruits and long fruiting period, being considered a key species in Atlantic forest areas. In our study we investigated the influence of pluviosity on the reproductive phenology of this plant, and our results showed that the low pluviosity appeared to have a negative influence on fruit ripening, which has not yet been reported in the literature for this species. All authors have seen and approved the submitted manuscript, which reports unpublished work that is not under active consideration for publication elsewhere, nor been accepted for publication, nor been published in full or in part.

The following names are among those with the expertise on Phenology and Plant Physiology, required to review the manuscript.

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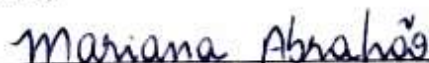
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Sincerely yours,



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