



UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE PERNAMBUCO
CENTRO DE BIOCÊNCIAS
DEPARTAMENTO DE BOTÂNICA
LABORATÓRIO BIOLOGIA DE BRIÓFITAS

Dr Camila dos Santos de Barros

Editor in Chief

Oecologia Australis

February 25st, 2022

Dear Dr. Camila dos Santos de Barros:

I have the pleasure of submitting the manuscript entitled “**Distribution, ecology and reproduction of bryophytes in Una Biological Reserve, a preserved remnant of Atlantic forest**”, authored by myself, Luciana C. dos Reis, Hermes C. de Oliveira and my mentor, Dr. Kátia C. Pôrto, to be considered for publication as a research article in your prestigious journal—*Oecologia Australis*.

This article contains original research from my Doctoral thesis, and it has not been published in any journal and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. All authors have seen and approved the manuscript, have contributed significantly to the paper, and there are no other persons who could share the authorship of this paper. In addition, all authors have the rights to publish all images included in the manuscript and agree that the article will only be published upon payment of the cost of the manuscript according to the amount indicated on the *Oecologia Australis* page.

The manuscript presented demonstrates the importance of the Una Biological Reserve for maintaining the diversity (taxonomic and functional) of bryophytes in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest. The REBIO Una is not only harbor a great diversity of species, but also rare taxa with few occurrences recorded in surveys carried out throughout the Northeast Atlantic Forest, such as *Drepanolejeunea pinnatiloba* Schiffn., *Syrrhopodon leprieurii* Mont. and *Plagiochila lamyana* Gradst. & D.P.Costa. Also, the high contribution of shade species associated with high rates of sexual reproduction, including between dioecious species, indicate the occurrence of good air humidity and shading conditions within the forest. The results obtained attest the studied forest has high levels of environmental preservation and the bryoflora in this important Conservation Unit can be used as "comparative-situation" or "control-situation" for studies about effects of habitat disturbance on taxonomic, ecological and reproductive aspects of bryophyte species in the Atlantic forest.

We believe that this study has the potential to attract a broad audience interested on questions related to the responses of bryophytes to environmental disturbances and habitat degradation. We hope our manuscript reaches the standards of this important journal and please do not hesitate to contact us for more information. Below, we provide five names of 5 (five) independent referees along with institutional affiliation and contact details:



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Dr. Cid José Passos Bastos

Universidade Federal da Bahia, Instituto de Biologia Laboratório de Taxonomia de Briófitas –
BrioFLORA, Campus Universitário de Ondina 40170-280 Salvador, Bahia, Brasil

E-mail: cidbastos@gmail.com

Dr. Emilia de BritoValente

Universidade Estadual de Feira de Santana, Departamento de Ciências Biológicas, Programa de
Pós-Graduação em Botânica, Feira de Santana, 44036-900 Bahia, Brasil .

E-mail: ebvalente@gmail.com

Dr. Juçara Bordin

Universidade Estadual do Rio Grande do Sul, Unidade Litoral Norte-Osório, Rua Machado de
Assis, nº 1456. Bairro Sulbrasileiro -CEP: 95520-000

E-mail: jucarabordin@gmail.com

Dr. Anna Luiza Ilkiu-Borges

Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, Coordenação de Botânica – CBO.

E-mail: ilkiu-borges@museu-goeldi.br

Dr. Juliana Rosa do Pará Marques de Oliveira

Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Vitória, ES

E-mail: julianabio2@yahoo.com.br

Thank you in advance for considering this manuscript for publication in *Oecologia Australis*. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Luciana Carvalho dos Reis

Dr. Luciana Carvalho dos Reis

Departamento de Botânica, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Biologia Vegetal, Universidade
Federal de Pernambuco, Recife, Brasil.

E-mail: luciana_cr@hotmail.com



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Dr. Hermeson Cassiano de Oliveira

Campus Heróis do Jemapapo, Universidade Estadual do Piauí, Campo Maior, Brasil.

E-mail: hermeson123@gmail.com

Dr. Kátia Cavalcanti Pôrto
Universidade Federal de Pernambuco

Dr. Kátia Cavalcanti Pôrto

Departamento de Botânica, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Biologia Vegetal, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Recife, Brasil.

E-mail: kentiporto@gmail.com