

Orchid diversity and endogenous knowledge in the Biosphere Reserve of Pendjari (Benin, West Africa)



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Background

Orchidaceae is an exceptionally diverse family with beautiful flowers and food-flavoring natural products. This study aims to assess epiphytic and terrestrial orchid diversity in the rain season in the Biosphere Reserve of Pendjari (BRP)

Results



Calypstrochilum christyanum (Rchb.f.) Summerh.



Plectrelminthus caudatus (Lindl.) Summerh.

Up to now, 10 terrestrial and 3 epiphytic orchid were recorded in the BRP. Local people has few knowledges on orchids and this varies with ethnic groups

Only 38,46% of inventoried species were known and really used by local people. *Eulophia horsfallii*, *habenaria filicornis*, *Platycoryne paludosa* and *Plectrelminthus caudatus* were not identified by local population.

This could be explained by their absence in the farmland. The habitat of these orchid species was mainly located in the core zone of the BRP under a strict protection or in the control zones of the farmland.

Only one individual of *Plectrelminthus caudatus* was record on *Pentadesma butiracea* tree species in a galleries forest.



Platycoryne paludosa (Lindl.) Rolfe



Eulophia horsfallii (Bateman) Summerh.



Habenaria cirrhata (Lindl.) Rchb. f.



Eulophia guineensis Lindl.



Habenaria schimperiana



Nervilia bicarinata (Blume) Schltr.



Habenaria filicornis Lindl



Nervilia kotschyi (Rchb.f.) Schltr.



Conclusion

Up to now, 10 terrestrial and 3 epiphytic orchid species were recorded in the BRP. Local population has few knowledges on orchids species,

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