

ECOLOGY, ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT OF FOREST AND WOOD SECTOR OF SPECIES *ENTANDROPHRAGMA* IN AFRICA. A REVIEW

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The species of *Entandrophragma* are the subject of special attention of the part of foresters and scientist for decades. Establishing a comprehensive updated review of knowledge about the ecology, economy and management of the exploitation of species *Entandrophragma* is the aim of this literature review. Possible prospects to new research in African forests are proposed. This genus account of exploited species in Africa for the timber they provide to the market. However, few studies exist regarding the ecology, the wood technology, the tree-ring analysis, the dynamics and the forestry of *Entandrophragma*. Therefore, the current knowledge on its forest management is still insufficient while *Entandrophragma angolense*, *Entandrophragma candollei*, *Entandrophragma cylindricum* and *Entandrophragma utile* are considered "vulnerable" by the IUCN Red List.

To improve the understanding of *Entandrophragma* ecology and dynamics, studies should be conducted in the areas of: plant geography and spatial distribution, genetics and phylogenetics, phenology and the growth rate, anatomic characterization and variability, X-ray CT densitometry, dendrochronology and tree-rings analysis, forestry and natural regeneration, the carbon stock and stable isotopes and other themes not yet explored. Based on this enhanced knowledge, recommendations adapted to these species could ensure their sustainable exploitation.

