

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Environment & Ecology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEE_121389
Title of the Manuscript:	Ecological Assessment of Species Diversity of Forest Resources of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka
Type of the Article	Ecological Assessment of Species Diversity of Forest Resources of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka

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PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>This manuscript is significant for the scientific community as it provides a comprehensive assessment of species diversity within the forest ecosystems of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. By employing rigorous sampling methods and detailed data analysis, the study offers valuable insights into the biodiversity and ecological dynamics of the area, which are crucial for conservation efforts and sustainable forest management. The findings, such as the high Shannon-Wiener index, underscore the ecological richness and importance of preserving these habitats amid growing environmental threats. I appreciate this manuscript for its methodological robustness and its contribution to understanding and protecting biodiversity in a region facing significant ecological challenges.</p>	
<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>The title of the article, "Ecological Assessment of Species Diversity of Forest Resources of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka," is clear and descriptive but could be made more concise and engaging. Here is an alternative suggestion: "Evaluating Species Diversity and Ecological Health of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Forest, Awka"</p>	
<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>The abstract of the article is comprehensive and covers the key aspects of the study, including the methodology, key findings, and significance. However, there are a few areas where it could be improved for clarity and conciseness. Here are my suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify the Study Area and Purpose: Explicitly mention the primary objective of the study and the significance of the forest area being studied. Improve Methodological Description: Briefly explain why the Point Center Quarter Method was chosen and what it helps to achieve. Highlight Key Findings More Clearly: Summarize the most important findings and their implications more succinctly. <p>Suggested Revision: The increasing threats to forest habitats due to natural and anthropogenic factors necessitate a detailed ecological assessment. This study aims to understand the ecological dynamics and biodiversity within the forest ecosystems of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, in the context of climate change and habitat destruction. Employing a stratified random sampling method and the Point Center Quarter Method, we collected data from 24 designated sample points across a 5000 m² plot. Measurements included species distance from sampling points and diameter at breast height (DBH) of trees. We computed phytosociological parameters such as density, basal area, dominance, cover, and frequency, along with relative values to determine species importance and diversity indices. A total of 96 trees comprising 71 species from 33 families were identified. Notably, Malvaceae and Fabaceae were the most represented families. Ficus benjamina had the highest total basal area (113.89 m²/ha) and important value index (25.98), indicating its ecological significance. The Shannon-Wiener index value of 4.13 reflects robust biodiversity, highlighting the ecological richness of the forest. These findings are crucial for informing conservation efforts and sustainable management of forest resources.</p>	
<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>This manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound due to its comprehensive and systematic approach to assessing species diversity in the forest ecosystems of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. The use of the stratified random sampling method and the Point Center Quarter Method ensures that the data collection is both rigorous and representative. Additionally, the detailed analysis of phytosociological parameters and the application of the Shannon-Wiener index provide a thorough and</p>	

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	quantifiable measure of biodiversity. The meticulous recording of species, their frequencies, and basal areas, combined with the computation of important value indices, underscores the study's depth and accuracy, making it a valuable contribution to ecological research and conservation efforts.	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	yes	
Minor REVISION comments		
Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	yes	
Optional/General comments	The article is very comprehensively written and the results are presented with great scientific vigor.	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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