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PHENOLOGY OF Emmotum nitens (Benth.) Miers (Icacinaceae)

IN TWO VEGETATION TYPES IN THE AMAZON-CERRADO TRANSITION

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Cerrado woody species have different phenological strategies that allow them to grow, reproduce and also withstand water loss during the dry season. The aim of our study was to describe the vegetative and reproductive phenological behavior of Emmotun nintens (Benth.) Miers in two vegetation types of the Amazon-Cerrado transition in the state of Mato Grosso. . We collected phenological data every 20 days, from December 2015 to December 2016 in a typical cerrado and a cerradão area in Bacaba Municipal Park, in Nova Xavantina-MT. For each individual we recorded: (I) percentage of canopy occupied by old and new leaves; (II) floral buds; (III) open flowers; (IV) mature fruits and (V) immature fruits. The circular distribution of the phenological periods proved to be seasonal (p > 0.05) for all phenophases in both cerrado and cerradão areas. Although E. nitens is considered a typical cerradão species, phenophases showed a lower seasonality in the typical cerrado, with longer events throughout the year. In the cerradão, the floral buds stage was less seasonal and random and in the typical cerrado, most stages of immature and mature fruits were the the random. In the cerradão, flowering occurred between February and March, however in the typical cerrado this phenomenon lasted longer, but without defined period. The intense fruiting registered in the typical cerrado, suggests that this vegetation type offers less restrictive conditions for the development and maturation of E. nitens fruits during the year. Our study showed that the same species may present phenological differences according to the vegetation type, which may be useful to understand the processes related to dispersion, germination and establishment of new individuals in different environments.

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