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EXOTIC SPECIES IN BRAZILIAN ATLANTIC SECONDARY FOREST

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The abandonment of deforested rural areas Atlantic Forest biome has fostered the emergence of secondary forests. This study analyzed the presence of exotic species in floristics composition in 18 fragments of secondary forests located in Aldeia, metropolitan region of Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil. For this, two transects were established in each fragment studied, where was established plots of 50x5m in edge-core gradient. The criterion for inclusion of specimens was diameter at breast height ≥ 3 cm. We did floristic surveys and computed: species richness, relative abundance of individuals and relative frequency of fragments of secondary forests that a given species occurs. We recorded 5,973 woody individuals distributed in 35 families and 130 species in the landscape. 213 individuals (14 species and 10 families) were exotic and the average richness of exotic species in the landscape was 2 ± 1.4 ($\bar{X} \pm SD$) for fragments of secondary forests and the average number of exotic individuals was 11.8 ± 18.2 ($\bar{X} \pm SD$). *Artocarpus heterophyllus* L. (jackfruit) was the exotic species with highest abundance of individuals (2.7%) and more frequent in the landscape, occurring in 72.2% of the forest fragments studied. The native species with the greatest abundance of individuals in the landscape were: *Tapirira guianensis* Aubl. (11%), *Eschweilera ovata* (Cambess.) Miers. (9.6%), *Cupania racemosa* (Vell.) Radlk. (6.4%), and *Miconia prasina* (Sw.) DC. (6.4%). *T. guianensis*, *Thyrsodium spruceanum* Benth., *Schefflera morototoni* Aubl. and *E. ovata* were recorded in 100% of the forest fragments. We verified that as exotic species do not dominate the studied forest fragments, but we suggest monitoring of exotic species. Since there are signs of emerging ecosystem formation with combinations of woody species distinct from the original flora.

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