



Diversity of the Urticalean clade in Brazil

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Brazil is the largest country in South America and the world's fifth largest in land area, occupying an area of 8,514,877 km², between geographic coordinates 5°16' and 33°45'S, 34°47' and 73°59'W. There are elevations ranging from sea level to about 3.014 m. The country's great territorial extension covers six major phytogeographic domains: Amazonia (occupying 49.29% of the territory), Cerrado (23.92%), Atlantic Forest (13.04%), Caatinga (9.92%), Pampa (2.07%) and Pantanal (1.76%). Some of these phytogeographic domains are included by Conservation International in the list of hotspots, areas considered most biologically rich and endangered of the planet. The study of the Urticalean clade in Brazil aims to found the taxa present in the country and contribute to their conservation. Urticalean clade, formed by the families Moraceae, Urticaceae, Ulmaceae and Cannabaceae, is within order Rosales and comprises about 110 genera and approximately 4000 species in the world. This group has particular diagnostic characters such as the presence of cystoliths, small and inconspicuous flowers, bicarpellate and unilocular ovary, one ovule with basal or apical placentation, and differentiated trichomes. In Brazil, Urticalean clade is represented by 36 native genera with 306 species, of which 92 are endemic to the country. Among the genera with the greatest number of species are *Ficus* (76), *Dorstenia* (37) and *Sorocea* (15), from Moraceae; *Coussapoa* (22), *Cecropia* (20) and *Pourouma* (19), from Urticaceae; *Celtis* (6) and *Trema* (1), from Cannabaceae; *Ampelocera* (4) and *Phyllostylon* (2), from Ulmaceae.

Palavras-Chave: Cannabaceae, conservação, Moraceae, taxonomia, Ulmaceae, Urticaceae