Caracterización biogeográfica y distribución de los bosques nublados de montaña en Bahoruco Oriental (República Dominicana)

Biogeographic characterization and distribution of montane cloud forests in East Bahoruco (Dominican Republic)

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Cloud forests are a characteristic vegetation of tropical mountain, which are mainly determined by the concentration of moisture (not visible precipitation), and rain brought by the trade winds aloft in these latitudes. In America they are distributed from the Sierra Madre Oriental, in Mexico, to the south of Bolivia in the Andes. In Dominican Republic examples of these forests are found several mountain ranges. Treatment and analysis of three vegetation transects, made with the MIFC method in the cloud forest of the Eastern Bahoruco Range in Dominican Republic, is presented in this paper. This analysis is supported with a map of the distribution of cloud forests, made from classification of a satellite image of Lansadt8. Finally, we present a comparison between prior studies from the National Botanic Garden of Santo Domingo (JBNSD) and our data.

Key words: cloud forest; Dominican Republic; East Bahoruco; MIFC method.