

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: JAR-54053

Title: DIVERSITY AND ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISATION OF SPECIES 1 WITH SPECIAL STATUS IN THE YAPO-ABBÉ CLASSIFIED FOREST 2 (CÔTE D'IVOIRE)*

Recommendation:

Accept as it is. Suggestions for Minor Revision:

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		Good		
Techn. Quality			Fair	
Clarity			Fair	
Significance			Fair	

Reviewer Name:

Dr G. Renuka

Date: 28th Sept 2025

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Manuscript Title: Diversity and Ecological Characterisation of Species with Special Status in the Yapo-Abbé Classified Forest (Côte d'Ivoire)

General

Assessment:

The manuscript presents a well-structured and detailed study on the diversity, composition, and conservation status of species with special status in the Yapo-Abbé Classified Forest. The objectives are clear, the methodology is appropriate, and the results contribute valuable information for biodiversity conservation in Côte d'Ivoire. The paper demonstrates scientific merit, particularly in highlighting the richness and ecological fragility of forest blocks and identifying priority species for conservation.

Strengths:

1. Clear focus on species with special conservation status, combining national and IUCN criteria.
2. Use of standard and appropriate floristic survey methods (surface plots and itinerant surveys).
3. Thorough analysis of floristic diversity (Shannon index), species similarity (Sørensen coefficient), and occurrence frequencies.
4. Inclusion of detailed tables listing species, families, conservation status, chorology, and biological types.
5. Discussion effectively links findings to conservation priorities and ecological implications.

Weaknesses / Points for Improvement:

1. Minor language inconsistencies and typographical errors throughout (e.g., spacing in "specieswithspecialstatus", "forestblocks"). A careful proofreading is recommended.
2. The abstract could be slightly revised to improve readability and flow. Some sentences are long and dense.
3. While the methodology is robust, a brief explanation of why 2.5 cm DBH was chosen for inventory could improve clarity.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

4. Figures and maps (e.g., Figure 1) should be properly referenced and included in the manuscript.
5. The discussion could further compare findings with similar studies in West African forests to strengthen the ecological context.

Scientific Quality:

- The manuscript is scientifically sound. Methods are appropriate, and analyses are valid. Results are well-presented and interpretable.

References:

- References are generally relevant, but a few more recent studies (2021–2024) on West African forest biodiversity and conservation could enhance the discussion.

Ethical Considerations / Conflicts of Interest:

- No ethical issues or conflicts of interest are apparent.

Language / Presentation:

- Overall readable but requires minor proofreading for typos, spacing, and flow.

Specific Suggestions for Minor Revision:

1. Correct typographical errors (e.g., “specieswithspecialstatus” → “species with special status”).
2. Include all figures and ensure they are properly cited in the text.
3. Slightly simplify and restructure sentences in the abstract for clarity.
4. Add a sentence explaining the rationale for the DBH threshold used.
5. Incorporate 2–3 recent references to strengthen the discussion and contextualization.