



Floristic diversity, origins and properties of city trees in Burkina Faso

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ABSTRACT

In Burkina Faso, insufficient or partial information exists on the forest potential of urban areas, marked mainly by the introduction of many exotic species. The objective of this study was to assess the floristic diversity of city trees, to reveal the benefits and risks associated with their properties in a context of climate change, increasing demography and accelerated urbanization. Surveys on 49 urban municipalities were conducted from 2015 to 2020 to identify and describe species at different phenological stages to enable photographic image recognition. Confirmations are made with floras, previous works and documentary compilations. The analyses relate to the biological diversity of species, their origins and uses. The floristic diversity of Burkina Faso's city trees consists of 251 species belonging to 174 genera and 58 families. It is comprised of 178 introduced species and 73 native species. The most represented families are Arecaceae with 7.97% of species, Euphorbiaceae (7.57%), Moraceae (6.37%), Fabaceae - Mimosoideae (5.98%), Apocynaceae (5.98%) and the Fabaceae - Caesalpinioideae (5.58%). The most common species are *Khaya senegalensis*, *Mangifera indica* and *Azadirachta indica*. This work has helped to characterize the city trees of Burkina Faso. It will update the flora of the country, which is enriched with 36 new exotic species.

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INTRODUCTION

Vegetation degradation as well as erosion of floristic diversity over the past four decades in most Sahel countries in general and in Burkina Faso in particular, have been documented by several studies (Ganaba, 2011; Kadeba et al., 2014). For the period 1999-2002, the second State of the Environment Report in Burkina Faso (REEB-II) states that 20,968 hectares of forests have been transformed into agricultural territories, or 2.33% of the forest sector. Approximately 1,444,316 hectares of steppes and savannahs have been partially or completely converted to agricultural land, or 10.66% of the total area of steppes and savannahs).

Furthermore, insufficient or partial information exists about the forest potential in urban areas (Ouédraogo, 2005; Soma, 2012), marked mainly by introduction of many exotic species. In addition to that, there is limited knowledge about the functions and uses of cities trees. Moreover, the country's rapid population growth and rapid urbanization reflect of the West African sub-region with rates of 5% in 1900, 12% in 1950, 28% in 1980 and 17% in 2000 (Fuwape and Onyekwelu, 2011). This is why there is a growing awareness in Africa of the need for urban forests and parks to satisfy physical and material needs and for recreation (Çay, 2016). However, information on the nature and level

of urban forest resources is essential for developing sustainable management strategies. Knowledge of the city's forestry potential requires an assessment of the tree heritage of the municipalities or "communes". A good assessment requires knowledge of the flora. The objective of the study is to evaluate the floristic diversity of city trees, to reveal the benefits and risks associated with their properties in a context of climate change, growing demography and accelerated urbanization.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area

The study area covered as much as possible the chief towns the 49 urban communes of Burkina Faso with Ouagadougou as capital city (Figure 1). Burkina Faso is a landlocked Sahelian country in the Niger loop. It is bordered to the north and west by Mali, to the east by Niger and to the south by Benin, Togo, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. The climate is Sudanian and Sahelian, alternating a dry season from October to May and a short rainy season from June to September. Average monthly temperatures vary between 30 - 34 °C in March - April and between 23 - 25 °C in December - January. Sunshine lasts more than 10 hours per day and evaporation exceeds 2,600 mm per year. Most of Burkina Faso's territory (about 75%) rests on an old Precambrian crystalline basement which gives it a generally flat and monotonous relief.

The phytogeographical division in Burkina Faso (Figure 1) distinguishes two domains (Guinko, 1984): the Sahelian phytogeographic domain subdivided into two phytogeographical sectors (strict Sahelian phytogeographic sector and sub-Sahelian phytogeographic sector) and the Sudan phytogeographical domain comprising the northern Sudanese and south Sudan sectors. The population is estimated at 20,870,060 in 2019 on an area of 270,764 km² and a population growth of 3.05% per year (Population Dataset, 2020). More than 40% of the population still lives below the poverty line, according to Prince and Fantom (2014). The country's economy is dominated by agriculture and livestock, which account for more than 85% of the population.

The urbanization rate, which stood at only 4.8% of the population in 1960, has been accelerating since 1985, from 12.7% to 22.7% in 2006. For example, the population of the city of Ouagadougou, which was estimated at 709,736 in 1996 has grown to 1,475,839 in 2006 and estimated at 3,000,000 in 2019. Its population, which grows by 7.2% per year, is one of the highest rates in the world and also poses a serious problem in terms of pollution, transport, safety, health and education. The country's second largest city, Bobo Dioulasso, has seen its population grow even faster than the capital, at about 11% per year, and could exceed one million in a short time (0.8 million in 2017) (Population Dataset, 2020).

In urban centres, climate change and increasing urbanization increase the need for wood (fire, construction, (Ouédraogo, 2006), the risks of pollution and nuisance, but also the degradation of peri-urban vegetation.

Data collection

The city tree here refers to any woody or similar material present in the city, whether spontaneous or introduced by man. City trees include both concession trees and off-concession trees. Concession trees are all woody plants (tree, shrub and subshrub), present within the boundaries of the residential or service concession. Out-of-concession trees are alignment shafts and trees located in urban forests, urban parks, botanical gardens, green spaces, greenbelts, peri-urban plantations and agroforestry reserves.

Prospecting trips to the cities of Burkina Faso's, 49 urban municipalities were organized from 2015 to 2020. Descriptions and photographic shots of several shots at different phenological phases (leafing, leaf removal, flowering, fruiting, etc.) of each plant were made to allow for further recognition. Verification of the determination was confirmed using flores (Lebrun and Stork (1991, 1992, 1995, 1997), Sacandé et al. (2012), Thiombiano et al. (2012), Arbonnier (2002).

The nomenclature used is that of Lebrun and Stork (1991, 1992, 1995, 1997) and Kyalangalilwa et al. (2013) for acacias.

(9.9%), Australia and Zealand (4.8%), Madagascar 3.8% of species and North America (3.8%). The 73 native species account for 29% of the total species.

Species from South America include species such as *Allamanda blanchetii* A. DC., *Allamanda cathartica* L., *Anacardium occidentale* L., *Annona* spp. Trees native to Southeast Asia are represent by *Aralia filicifolia* Ridl., *Araucaria heterophylla* (Salisb.) Franco, *Artocarpus altilis* (Parkinson) Fosberg, etc. Plants native to South Asia are : *Argyrea nervosa* (Burm. f.) Bojer, *Artocarpus heterophyllus* Lam., etc. The plants introduced from Australia and Zealand are: *Acacia holosericea* A. Cunn. ex G. Do, *Acalypha wilkesiana* Muill. Arg., *Aralia balfouriana* André, etc. The plants native to North America are: *Washingtonia filifera* (Linden ex André) H.Wendl., *Washingtonia robusta* H.Wendl., *Caesalpinia pulcherrima* (L.) Sw., etc. The plants of Mediterranean origin are :

Chamaerops humilis L., *Jasminum fruticans* L., *Viburnum tinus* L. et *Vitis vinifera* L. The plants introduced from Madagascar are : *Bismarckia nobilis* Hildebrandt & H. Wendl, *Delonix regia* (Bojer ex Hook.) Raf., *Dypsis madagascariensis* (Becc.) Beentje et J. Dransf., etc. The plants introduced from West Africa are: *Cola nitida* (Vent.) Schott & Endl., *Euphorbia basalmifera* Aiton, *Ficus lutea* Vahl, etc. (Table 1).

Native plants of 73 species are distributed in 27 families. The most representative are

Fabaceae-Mimosoideae with 9 species, Malvaceae and Moraceae with 6 species each,

Fabaceae-Caesalpiniaceae and Apocynceae and Arecaceae with 5 species each and Fabaceae-

Faboideae, Anacardiaceae, Capparaceae with 4 species each. They are recorded in the following Table 2.

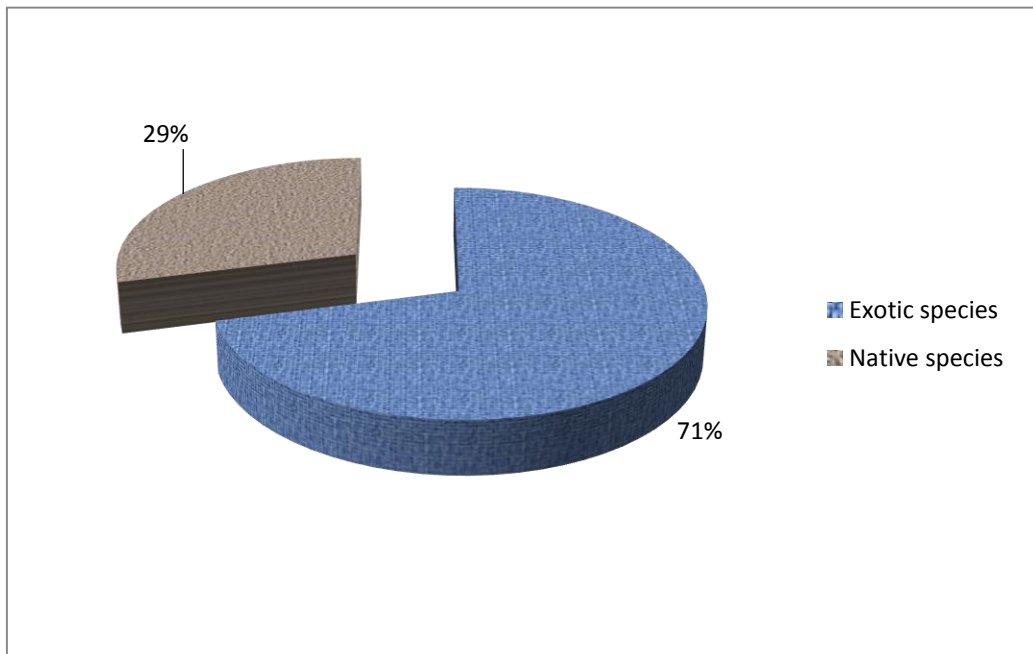


Figure 2: Distribution of Burkina Faso city trees in Exotic and Native Species.

Table 1: Burkina Faso urban trees species distribution by family and provenance.

Class	Family	Species	Provenance
Monocotylédones	Arecaceae	<i>Bismarckia nobilis</i> Hildebrandt & H. Wendl	Madagascar
		<i>Borassus aethiopum</i> L.	Native
		<i>Borassus akeasii</i> Bayton, Ouédraogo & Guinko	Native
		<i>Caryota mitis</i> Lour.	South America
		<i>Chamaedora elegans</i> Mart.	South America
		<i>Chamaerops humilis</i> L.	Mediterranean
		<i>Cocos nucifera</i> L.	South America
		<i>Dypsis madagascariensis</i> (Becc.) Beentje et J. Dransf.	Madagascar
		<i>Elaeis guineensis</i> Jacq.	Western Africa
		<i>Hyophorbe lagenicaulis</i> (L.H.Bailey) H.E.Moore	Madagascar
		<i>Hyphaene thebaica</i> (L.) Mart.	Native
		<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> Hort. ex Chabaud	Western Africa
		<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> L.	Northern Africa, Western Asia
		<i>Phoenix sylvestris</i> (L.) Roxb.	Southern Asia
		<i>Raphia sudanica</i> A. Chev.	Native
		<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i> (Sol. ex G.Forst.) H.Wendl. & Drude	Australia and Zealand
		<i>Roystonea regia</i> (Kunth) O.F.Cook	Central America
		<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i> (Hook.) H.Wendl.	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Washingtonia filifera</i> (Linden ex André) H.Wendl.	Northern America
		<i>Washingtonia robusta</i> H.Wendl.	Northern America
	<i>Wodyetia bifurcata</i> A.K. Irvine	Australia and Zealand	
Monocotylédones	Poaceae	<i>Dendrocalamus giganteus</i> WALL ex. Munr	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Oxytenanthera abyssinica</i> (A.Rich.) Munro	Native
Dicotyledones		<i>Aphelandra squarrosa</i> Nees	South and Northern America
		<i>Barleria cristata</i> L.	Southern Asia
		<i>Strobilanthes dyerianus</i> (Lodd. et al.) T. Anderson	Madagascar, Southern Asia
		<i>Thunbergia erecta</i> (Benth.) T. Anderson	Tropical Africa
		<i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i> Roxb., 1832	Tropical Africa
	Acanthaceae	<i>Sanchezia speciosa</i> Leonard	South America
	Adoxaceae	<i>Viburnum tinus</i> L.	Mediterranean
	Anacardiaceae	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i> L.	South America
		<i>Haematostaphis barteri</i> Hook f.	Native
		<i>Lannea microcarpa</i> Engl. & K. Krause	Native
<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.		Southern Asia	

	<i>Sclerocarya birrea</i> (A. Rich.) Hochst. subsp. <i>birrea</i>	Native
	<i>Sclerocarya birrea</i> (A. Rich.) Hochst. subsp. <i>caffra</i> (Sond.) Kokwaro	Southern Africa
	<i>Spondias dulcis</i> Sol. ex Parkinson	South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Spondias mombin</i> L.	Afrotropical
Annonaceae	<i>Annona muricata</i> L.	South America
	<i>Annona reticulata</i> L.	Caribbean
	<i>Annona squamosa</i> L.	South America
	<i>Cananga odorata</i> (Lam.) Hook.f. & Thomson	South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i> (Sonn.) Thwaites	Southern Asia
Apocynaceae	<i>Adenium obesum</i> (Forsskål) Roemer & Schultes	Southern Africa
	<i>Allamanda blanchetii</i> A. DC.	South America
	<i>Allamanda cathartica</i> L.	South America
	<i>Calotropis procera</i> (Aiton) W.T. Aiton	Native
	<i>Cascabela thevetia</i> (L.) Lippold	South America
	<i>Holarrhena floribunda</i> (G.Don) T. Durand & Schinz	Native
	<i>Landolphia heudelotii</i> A.DC.	Native
	<i>Nerium oleander</i> L.	Western Asia
	<i>Plumeria alba</i> L.	Northern and South America
	<i>Plumeria pudica</i> Jacq.	Central and South America
	<i>Plumeria rubra</i> L.	Northern America and Caribbean
	<i>Rauvolfia viridis</i> Willd., ex Roemer & Schultes	Caribbean and South America
	<i>Rauvolfia vomitoria</i> Afzel.	Native
	<i>Saba senegalensis</i> (A. DC.) Pichon	Native
	<i>Voacanga africana</i> Stapf ex Scott-Elliot, 1894	Native
Araliaceae	<i>Aralia balfouriana</i> André	South and Northern America
	<i>Aralia filicifolia</i> Ridl.	South and Northern America
	<i>Schefflera arboricola</i> (Hayata) Merr.	Southern Asia
Asteraceae	<i>Vernonia amygdalina</i> Del.	Native
	<i>Vernonia colorata</i> (Willd.) Drake	Native
	<i>Zinnia elegans</i> L.	Northern America
Bignoniaceae	<i>Crescentia cujete</i> L.	South America
	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> D. Don	South America
	<i>Kigelia africana</i> (Lam.) Benth.	Native
	<i>Newbouldia laevis</i> (P.Beauv.) Seemann ex Bureau	Western Africa
	<i>Stereospermum kunthianum</i> Cham.	Native

	<i>Tecoma stans</i> Juss. (L.) Juss. ex Kunth	Central and South America
Bixaceae	<i>Bixa orellana</i> L.	South America
Boraginaceae	<i>Cordia myxa</i> L.	Asia and Australian
	<i>Cordia sebastiana</i> L.	South America
Burseraceae	<i>Boswellia dalzielii</i> Hutch.	Native
Cactaceae	<i>Echinocactus grusonii</i> Hildmann	South America
	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> (L.) Mill.	Central America
Capparaceae	<i>Boscia senegalensis</i> (Pers.) Lam. ex Poir.	Native
	<i>Cadaba farionsa</i> Forssk.	Native
	<i>Maerua angolensis</i> DC.	Native
	<i>Maerua crassifolia</i> Forssk.	Native
Caricaceae	<i>Carica papaya</i> L.	Central America
Casuarinaceae	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i> L.	Australia and Zealand
Combretaceae	<i>Anogeissus leiocarpa</i> (DC.) Guill. & Perr	Native
	<i>Combretum micranthum</i> G. Don	Native
	<i>Quisqualis indica</i> L.	South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Terminalia catappa</i> L.	Australia and Zealand
	<i>Terminalia mantaly</i> H. Perrier	Madagascan
Convolvulaceae	<i>Argyreia nervosa</i> (Burm. f.) Bojer	Southern Asia
Crassulaceae	<i>Kalanchoe daigremontianum</i> Raymond Hamet & H. Perrier	Madagascan
Ebenaceae	<i>Diospyros kaki</i> Thunb.	Southern Asia
	<i>Diospyros mespiliformis</i> A. Rich.	Native
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Acalypha hispidula</i> Burm. f.	Southern Asia
	<i>Acalypha wilkesiana</i> Muüll. Arg.	Southern Asia
	<i>Euphorbia basalmifera</i> Aiton	Western Africa
	<i>Euphorbia caudelabrum</i> Kotschy	Eastern Africa
	<i>Euphorbia ingens</i> E.Mey. ex Boiss.	Southern Africa
	<i>Euphorbia kamerunica</i> Pax	Central Africa
	<i>Euphorbia milii</i> Des Moul.	Madagascan
	<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i> Willd. ex Klotzsch	Central and South America
	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L.	Eastern Africa
	<i>Euphorbia tithymaloides</i> L.	Northern and Central America
	<i>Hura crepitans</i> L.	South America
	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L.	South America
	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i> L.	South America
	<i>Jatropha integerrima</i> Jacq.	Caribbean

		<i>Jatropha multifida</i> L.	Northern America
		<i>Jatropha podagrica</i> Hook.	Central America
		<i>Olea europae</i> L.	Western Asia Northern Africa
		<i>Ricinus communis</i> L.	Native
		<i>Codiaeum variegatum</i> (L.) Rumph. ex A. Juss.	South-Eastern Asia
Fabaceae Caesalpinioideae	-	<i>Afzelia africana</i> Sm. & Pers.	Native
		<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i> L. Benth.	Southern and South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Bauhinia rufescens</i> Lam.	Native
		<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i> (L.) Sw.	Northern America
		<i>Cassia sieberiana</i> DC.	Native
		<i>Cordyla pinnata</i> (Lepr. ex A.Rich.) Milne-Redh.	Native
		<i>Delonix regia</i> (Bojer ex Hook.) Raf.	Madagascan
		<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i> L.	South America
		<i>Peltophorum ferrugineum</i> (Decaisne) Benth	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Piliostigma reticulatum</i> (DC.) Hochst.	Native
		<i>Senna alata</i> (L.) Roxb.	Northern America
		<i>Senna siamea</i> (Lam.) Irwin & Barneby	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Senna spectabilis</i> (DC.) Irwin & Barneby	South and Northern America
		<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.	Native
Fabaceae Faboideae	-	<i>Andira inermis</i> (W.Wright) Kunth ex DC.	Central America
		<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> Roxb. ex DC.	Southern Asia
		<i>Erythrina indica</i> Lam.	Southern Asia
		<i>Erythrina senegalensis</i> DC.	Native
		<i>Erythrina sigmoidea</i> Hua	Native
		<i>Faidherbia albida</i> (Del.) A. Chev.	Native
		<i>Gliciridia sepium</i> (Jacq.) Kunth ex Walp.	South and Central America
		<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (Lam.) de Wit	South America, Caribbean
		<i>Canavalia ensiformis</i> (L.) DC.	Africa, Central America
Fabaceae Mimosoideae	-	<i>Acacia holosericea</i> A. Cunn. ex G. Don	Australia and Zealand
		<i>Albizia chevalieri</i> Harms	Native
		<i>Albizia julibrissin</i> Durazz.	Wester and southern Asia
		<i>Albizia lebbeck</i> (L.) Benth.	Southern Asia
		<i>Calliandra calothyrsus</i> Meissner	Central America

	<i>Enterolobium cyclocarpum</i> (Jacq.) Grise	Caribbean and South America
	<i>Parkia biglobosa</i> (Jacq.) Benth.	Native
	<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i> (Roxb.) Benth.	Central, Northern and South America
	<i>Prosopis africana</i> (Guill. & Perr.) Taub.	Native
	<i>Prosopis juliflora</i> (Sw.) DC.	Northern, South America and Caribbean
	<i>Senegalia erythrocalyx</i> (Brenan) Kyal. & Baotwr	Native
	<i>Senegalia senegal</i> (L.) Britton & P. Wilson	Native
	<i>Vachellia nilotica</i> (L.) P.J. H. Hurter & Mabb.	Native
	<i>Vachellia seyal</i> (Del.) P.J.H.Hurter	Native
	<i>Vachellia tortilis</i> (Forssk.) Galasso & Banfi	Native
Hydrangeaceae	<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> Siebold	South-Eastern Asia
Lamiaceae	<i>Clerodendrum inerme</i> (L.) Gaertn	South-eastern Asia
	<i>Clerodendrum thomsoniae</i> Balf.	Tropical Africa
Lauraceae	<i>Laurus nobilis</i> L.	Europe
	<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.	Central and Northern America
Lecythidaceae	<i>Barringtonia asiatica</i> (L.) Kurz	Southern Asia
Lythraceae	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> L.	South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i> L.	Western Asia, Northern Africa
	<i>Punica granatum</i> L.	Southern Asia
Malvaceae	<i>Abutilon hybridum</i> Hort. ex Siebert. & Voss	South America
	<i>Adansonia digitata</i> L.	Native
	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.	Southern Asia
	<i>Ceiba pentandra</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Central America, South America
	<i>Ceiba speciosa</i> A.St.-Hil.	South America
	<i>Dombeya cayeuxii</i> André	Tropical Africa and Madagascar
	<i>Gossypium arboreum</i> L.	Asia
	<i>Gossypium barbadense</i> L.	South America
	<i>Grewia bicolor</i> Juss.	Native
	<i>Grewia flavescens</i> Juss.	Native
	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> L.	South-Eastern Asia
Meliaceae	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.	Southern Asia
	<i>Khaya senegalensis</i> (Desr.) A. Juss.	Native
	<i>Melia azedarach</i> L.	Southern Asia
Moraceae	<i>Artocarpus altilis</i> (Parkinson) Fosberg	South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i> Lam.	Southern Asia

	<i>Ficus benjamina</i> L.	South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Ficus binnendijkii</i> (Miq.) Miq.	South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Ficus carica</i> L.	Western Asia
	<i>Ficus elastica</i> Roxb. ex Hornem.	Southern Asia
	<i>Ficus ingens</i> (Miq.) Miq.	Native
	<i>Ficus lutea</i> Vahl	Western Africa
	<i>Ficus natalensis</i> Hochst.	Northern and Southern Africa
	<i>Ficus platyphylla</i> Delile	Native
	<i>Ficus polita</i> Vahl.	Southern Asia
	<i>Ficus pumila</i> L.	Southern and South-Eastern Asia
	<i>Ficus sycomorus</i> L.	Native
	<i>Ficus umbellata</i> Vahl	Native
	<i>Ficus thonningii</i> Blume	Native
Moringaceae	<i>Moringa oleifera</i> Lam.	Southern Asia
	<i>Corymbia citriodora</i> (Hook.) K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson	Australia and Zealand
	<i>Corymbia torelliana</i> (F. Muell.) K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson	Australia and Zealand
	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> Dehnh.	Australia and Zealand
	<i>Melaleuca alternifolia</i> (Maiden & Betche) Cheel	Australia and Zealand
Myrtaceae	<i>Psidium guajava</i> L	South America
Nyctaginaceae	<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i> Choisy	South America
	<i>Bougainvillea spectabilis</i> Willd.	South America
Nyssaceae	<i>Nyssa ursina</i> Small	Northern America
Olacaceae	<i>Ximenia americana</i> L.	Native
Oleaceae	<i>Jasminum beesianum</i> Forrest & Diels	Southern Asia
	<i>Jasminum fruticans</i> L.	Mediterranean
	<i>Jasminum sambac</i> (Linn.), Aiton	Southern Asia
Oxalidaceae	<i>Averrhoa carambola</i> L.	Asia
Passifloraceae	<i>Passiflora edulis</i> Sims	South America
Phyllanthaceae	<i>Flueggea virosa</i> (Willd.) Voigt	Native
Rhamnaceae	<i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i> Lam.	Native
	<i>Ziziphus mucronata</i> Willd.	Native
Rosaceae	<i>Rosa chinensis</i> Jacq.	Southern Asia
Rubiaceae	<i>Coffea arabica</i> L.	Eastern Africa
	<i>Feretia apodanthera</i> Del.	Native
	<i>Gardenia jasminoides</i> J. Ellis	Southern and South-Eastern Asia

		<i>Ixora acuminata</i> Roxb	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Ixora chinensis</i> Lam.	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Ixora coccinea</i> L.	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Ixora javanica</i> (Blume) DC.	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Ixora macrothyrsa</i> (Teijsm. & Binn.) R. E. Br.	Southern Asia
		<i>Ixora miniature</i>	Southern and South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Morinda citrifolia</i> L.	Asia
		<i>Mussaenda philippica</i> A. Rich.	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Sarcocephalus latifolius</i> (Smith) Bruce	Native
	Rutaceae	<i>Citrus aurantiifolia</i> (Christm.) Swingle	Southern Asia
		<i>Citrus limon</i> (L.) Burm. f.	South-eastern Asia
		<i>Citrus maxima</i> (Burm.) Merr.	South-eastern Asia
		<i>Citrus reticulata</i> Blanco	South-eastern Asia
		<i>Citrus sinensis</i> (L.) Osbeck	South-eastern Asia
		<i>Citrus tangelo</i> J.W.Ingram & H.E. Moore	Southern Asia
		<i>Fortunella japonica</i> (Thunb.) Swingle	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Murraya paniculata</i> (L.) Jack	South-Eastern Asia
		<i>Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides</i> (Lam.) Zepern.&Timler	Native
		<i>Blighia sapida</i> K. D. Koenig	Central and Western Africa
		<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> Jacq.	Australia and Zealand
	Sapindaceae	<i>Melicoccus bijugatus</i> Jacq.	South America, Caribbean
	Sapotaceae	<i>Achras sapota</i> L.	Central America
		<i>Vitellaria paradoxa</i> Gaertn. f.	Native
		<i>Cola cordifolia</i> (Cav.) R. Br.	Native
		<i>Cola laurifolia</i> Mast.	Western Africa
		<i>Cola nitida</i> (Vent.) Schott & Endl.	Western Africa
		<i>Sterculia setigera</i> Delile	Native
		<i>Theobroma cacao</i> L.	Northern America
	Strelitziaceae	<i>Ravenala madagascariensis</i> Sonn.	Madagascan
	Theaceae	<i>Camelia japonica</i> L.	Northern America
		<i>Aloysia citrodora</i> Palau	Southern America
		<i>Duranta erecta</i> L.	Central and South America
		<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb.	Southern Asia
		<i>Lantana camara</i> L.	South America
		<i>Tectona grandis</i> L. f.	South-Eastern Asia
	Verbenaceae	<i>Vitex doniana</i> Sweet, 1827	Native
	Vitaceae	<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i> L	Native
		<i>Vitis vinifera</i> L.	Mediterranean
	Zygophyllaceae	<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i> (L.) Del.	Native

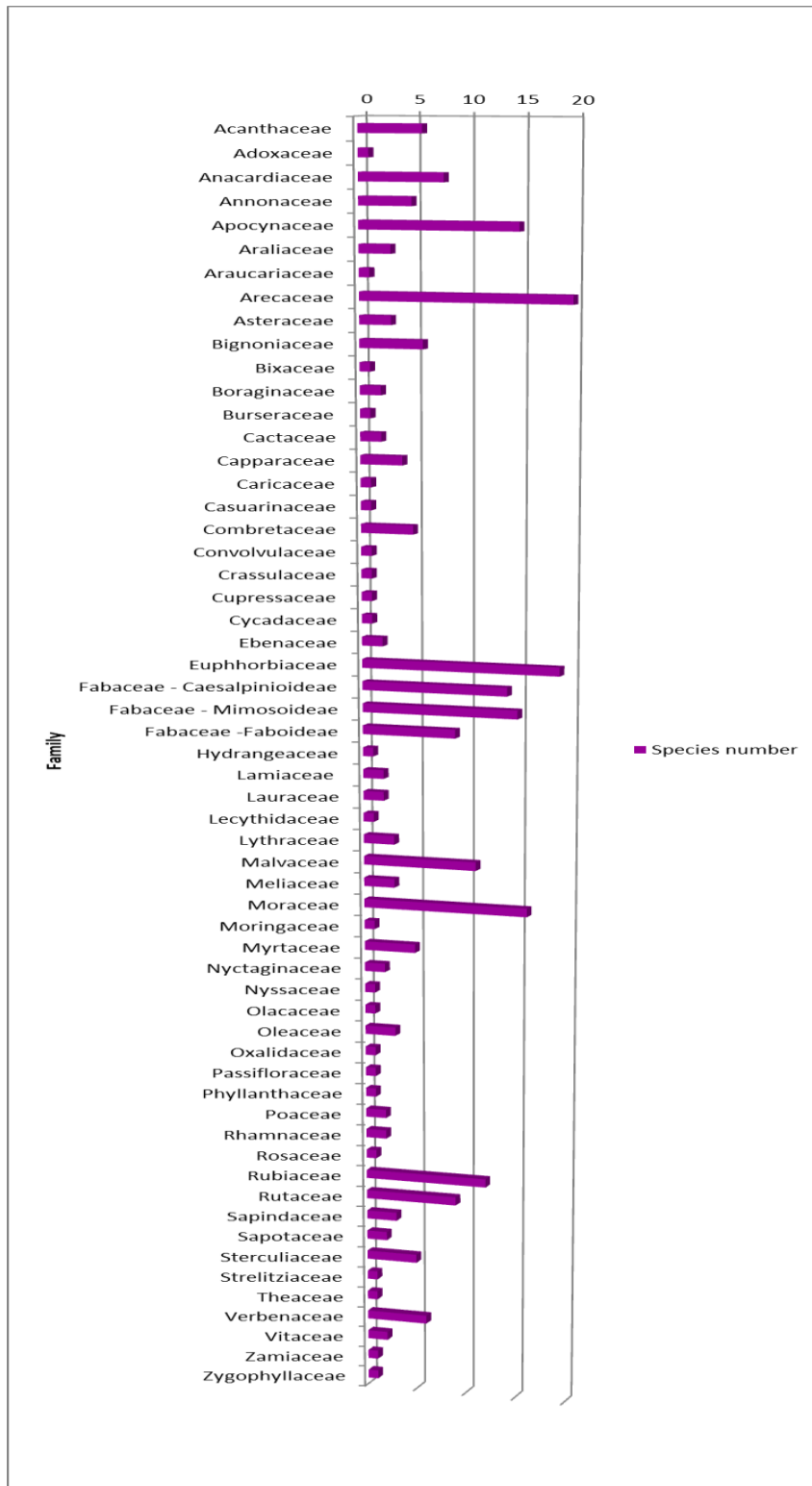


Figure 3: Floristic diversity of Burkina Faso city trees.

Table 2: Characteristics of Burkina Faso's native urban trees.

N°	Family	Species name	Habitat
1	Anacardiaceae	<i>Haematostaphis barteri</i> Hook.f.	Sudan and Guinean savannahs on rocky hill soils (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
2		<i>Lannea microcarpa</i> Engl. & K.Krause	Sahel-Sudanese savannahs, on rocky soils and fresh and deep compact soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
3		<i>Sclerocarya birrea</i> (A. Rich.) Hochst. subsp. <i>birrea</i>	Sahel-Saharan savannahs, Sahel-Sudanese and Sudanese areas, on sandy-textured soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
4		<i>Spondias mombin</i> L.	Sudan savannas and Guinean preforestry, gardens and swamps (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
5	Apocynaceae	<i>Holarrhena floribunda</i> (G.Don) T.Durand & Schinz	Tree savannas and clear forests, Sudan areas in Guinea, forest galleries and river banks (north), rocky hills (south), wastelands and fallows (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
6		<i>Landolphia heudelotii</i> A.DC.	Groves and wooded savannahs of the Sudanese and Sudan-Guinean areas, on drained, sandy soils, on cracked armour, ravines (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
7		<i>Rauvolfia vomitoria</i> Afzel.	Forest galleries in the Sudan area, bushes and secondary forests (Akoègninou et al., 2006).
8		<i>Saba senegalensis</i> (A. DC.) Pichon	Gravel soils and armour in the Sudan area, termite mounds (Lebrun et al., 1991).
9		<i>Calotropis procera</i> (Aiton) W.T. Aiton	Sahelian species that prefers sandy soils, colonizes wetter areas on degraded soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
10	Areaceae	<i>Borassus aethiopum</i> L.	Temporarily flooded shallows in the Sahel-Sudanese and Sudanese areas (Maydell, 1983)
11		<i>Borassus akeasii</i> Bayton, Ouedraogo & Guinko	West African Endemic (Thiombiano et al., 2012)
12		<i>Elaeis guineensis</i> Jacq.	Sudan-Guinean forests and savannahs in Guineans, on well-drained and cool soils, on termite mounds in flood-like shoals (Arbonnier, 2002)
13		<i>Hyphaene thebaica</i> (L.) Mart.	Irregularly distributed species, often planted. Locally abundant and gregarious (Arbonnier, 2002).
14		<i>Raphia sudanica</i> A. Chev.	Irregularly distributed species, Sudanese savannahs and forest galleries (Sacandé et al, 2012)
15	Asteraceae	<i>Vernonia amygdalina</i> Del.	Wet savannahs, backwaters, sometimes planted (César et al., 2009).
16		<i>Vernonia colorata</i> (Willd.) Drake	Sudan-Guinean and Guinean forests and savannahs, rivers on fresh and drained soils, forest galleries, fallows, banks of backwaters in the Sahelian zone (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al, 2006).
17	Balanitaceae	<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i> (L.) Del.	Sahelian and Sudanese areas, soils eroded or trampled by livestock (Lebrun et al., 1991).
18	Bignoniaceae	<i>Kigelia africana</i> (Lam.) Benth.	Sudan and Guinean forests and savannahs, thicketed, forest galleries, usually on well-drained soils (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al, 2006).

19		<i>Stereospermum kunthianum</i>	Tree savannas, forest galleries, fallows in Sahel-Cham.	Tree savannas, forest galleries, fallows in Sahel-Sudanese and Guinean areas, on all types of soils (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al, 2006).
20	Boraginaceae	<i>Cordia myxa</i> L.		Sudan-Guinean savannahs in Guineans, on cool, deep soils, near rivers (Arbonnier, 2002).
21	Burseraceae	<i>Boswellia dalzielli</i> Hutch.		Sahel-Sudanese savannahs in Sudan-Guineans with a very marked dry season, on dry soils, often on hills or granite rocky outcrops (Arbonnier, 2002).
22	Capparaceae	<i>Boscia senegalensis</i> (Pers.) Lam. ex Poir.		Dry stations, rocky, lateritic, sandy-clay compacts and old termite mounds (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
23		<i>Cadaba farionsa</i> Forssk.		Dry and arid land, especially at the foot of termite mounds (Lebrun et al., 1991).
24		<i>Maerua angolensis</i> DC.		Savannahs of the South-Sahelian and Northern Sudanese areas on sandy soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
25		<i>Maerua crassifolia</i> Forssk.		Sahelo-Sudanese and Sudanese dry savannahs on sandy soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
26	Combretaceae	<i>Anogeissus leiocarpa</i> (DC.) Guill. & Perr		Forest galleries, dry forests, savannahs in the Sudan-Sahelian to The Sudan-Guinean zone, on generally compact soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
27		<i>Combretum micranthum</i> G. Don		Sahelian skeletal soils, on gravel in the Sudan area, almost impervious degraded termite mounds (Lebrun et al., 1991; Thiombiano, 2005).
28	Ebenaceae	<i>Diospyros mespiliformis</i> A. Rich.		Dense forests, clear forests, forest galleries and savannahs, near the marigots (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
29	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia balsamifera</i> Aiton		Sahelian and Sudanese savannahs, on sandy soils or rocky stations (Arbonnier, 2002).
30		<i>Ricinus communis</i> L.		Proximity to dams and gardens, storm stations (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
31	Fabaceae - Caesalpinioidea	<i>Piliostigma reticulatum</i> (DC.) Hochst.		Dry savannahs, on wet sandy soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
32	e	<i>Azelia africana</i> Sm. & Pers.		Sudan's savannahs, forest galleries, Guinean forests, on deep sandy and alluvial soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
33		<i>Bauhinia rufescens</i> Lam.		Wet sandy soils in the Sahelian zone (Lebrun et al., 1991).
34		<i>Cassia sieberiana</i> DC.		Sudan-Guinean and Sudanese savannahs, forest galleries on all types of soils, preferably laterite soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
35		<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.		Savannahs, often on termite mounds (Akoègninou et al., 2006).
36	Fabaceae- Faboidea	<i>Andira inermis</i> (W.Wright) DC.		Lowlands, banks of marigots on deep soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
37		<i>Cordyla pinnata</i> (Lepr. ex A.Rich.) Milne-Redh.		Sudan's savannahs, dry forests, on medium soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
38		<i>Erythrina senegalensis</i> DC.		Savannahs on sandy colluvions (Berhaut, 1974; Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).

39		<i>Erythrina sigmoïdea</i> Hua (introduit)	Tree savannas and clear forests, forest galleries, riparian forests (César et al., 2009).
40	Fabaceae-Mimosoideae	<i>Albizia chevalieri</i> Harms	Alluvial terraces and wet savannahs in the Sudan area (Lebrun et al., 1991).
41		<i>Faidherbia albida</i> (Del.) A. Chev.	Savannahs, cultivated fields (Akoègninou et al., 2006).
42		<i>Parkia biglobosa</i> (Jacq.) Benth.	Tree savannas, lowlands and Sudanese savannahs (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
43		<i>Prosopis africana</i> (Guill. & Perr.) Taub.	Tree savannas, inselbergs, lowlands of Sudan (Akoègninou et al., 2006).
44		<i>Senegalia erythrocalyx</i> (Brenan) Kyal. & Baotwr	Wet dense forests, pond banks on clay soils and gravel armour, on termite mounds (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
45		<i>Senegalia senegal</i> (L.) Britton & P. Wilson	Sahelian Africa and the Arabian Peninsula (Ganaba, 2008)
46		<i>Vachellia nilotica</i> (L.) P.J. H. Hurter & Mabb.	Sahel-Sudan region, on wet and heavy soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002, Ganaba, 2008).
47		<i>Vachellia seyal</i> (Del.) P.J.H.Hurter	Sahel and Sudanian silty-clayey lowlands, silty-clayey glazes (Lebrun et al., 1991, Ganaba 2008).
48		<i>Vachellia tortilis</i> (Forssk.) Galasso & Banfi	Sahelian zone, on sandy or slightly gravel and Saharan glacis (Lebrun et al., 1991, Ganaba, 2008).
49	Malvaceae	<i>Adansonia digitata</i> L.	Sahel-Sudan zone, on soils of varying quality, usually on degraded termite mounds (Arbonnier, 2002).
50		<i>Cola cordifolia</i> (Cav.) R. Br.	Sudan's savannahs and dry forests in Guinea, tolerates temporary flooded soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
51		<i>Cola laurifolia</i> Mast.	Banks of the great Sudanese marigots, on temporarily flooded soils (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
52		<i>Grewia bicolor</i> Juss.	Sahelo-Sudanese savannahs, at the edges of ponds, on rocks, cracked lateritic armour and gravel soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
53		<i>Grewia flavescens</i> Juss.	Sahel-Sudanese savannahs, on various wet soils in the rainy season (Arbonnier, 2002).
54		<i>Sterculia setigera</i> Delile	Dry savannahs, on sandy or gravel soils (Lebrun et al., 1991)
55	Meliaceae	<i>Khaya senegalensis</i> (Desr.) A. Juss.	Sudan's savannahs in Guineans, on deep, well-drained soils (Arbonnier, 2002).
56	Moraceae	<i>Ficus abutilifolia</i> (Miq.) Miq.	Gallery forests and savannahs of Sahel-Sudanian areas in Sudan-Guinea, rocky hills, rocky places in Burkina Faso (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
57		<i>Ficus ingens</i> (Miq.) Miq.	Savannahs in Sudanese areas, on sands and gravel (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002)
58		<i>Ficus natalensis</i> Hochst.	Guinean savannahs and forest galleries, along the river, wet and marshy stations (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
59		<i>Ficus platyphylla</i> Delile	Lowlands in the Sudan area, savannahs, fallows (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
60		<i>Ficus sycomorus</i> L.	Sandy lowlands in sub-Saharan and Sudanese areas.
61		<i>Ficus thonningii</i> Blume	Savannahs, Sudan-Saharan forest galleries in Guineans, thicketed (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).

62	Phyllanthaceae	<i>Flueggea virosa</i> (Willd.) Voigt	Disturbed soils and fallows in Sahelian savannahs in Guineans, wet station in the Sahel, thicketed (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
63	Poaceae	<i>Oxytenanthera abyssinica</i> (A.Rich.) Munro	Eboulis of armour, forest galleries of wooded savannahs, also planted in villages (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al, 2006).
64	Rhamnaceae	<i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i> Lam.	Savannahs, sandy soils in Sahelian and Sahelian areas (Lebrun et al., 1991).
65		<i>Ziziphus mucronata</i> Willd.	Shrub savannahs, fallows, gallery forests, shoals and marigots in the Sahel-Sudan area (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006)
66	Rubiaceae	<i>Feretia apodanthera</i> Del.	Berges of Subsahelian and Sudanese marigots, on termite mounds, compact and battleships (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
67		<i>Sarcocephalus latifolius</i> (Smith) Bruce	Forest galleries, tree savannahs, ponds and shallows of Sudan-Guinean and Guinean savannahs, on more or less well-drained wet soils (Arbonnier, 2002; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
68	Rutaceae	<i>Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides</i> (Lam.) Zepern. &Timler	Groves and forest galleries of the Sudan-Guinean areas, Guinean savannahs, on drained soils, termite mounds (Lebrun et al., 1991; Arbonnier, 2002).
69	Sapotaceae	<i>Vitellaria paradoxa</i> Gaertn. f.	Sudanian savannahs in Guineans, on clay-clay soils with clay-silical soils, decomposed laterite terrain (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al., 2006).
70	Verbenaceae	<i>Vitex doniana</i> Sweet	Savannahs, shallows and moist soils in the Sahelian area (Lebrun et al., 1991; Akoègninou et al, 2006).
71		<i>Voacanga africana</i> Stapf ex Scott-Elliot	Sudano guinean and mainland tropical Africa (Arbonnier, 2002)
72	Vitaceae	<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i> L	Groves and ponds, Sahelian savannahs to Sudanese (Arbonnier, 2002).
73	Ximeniaceae		

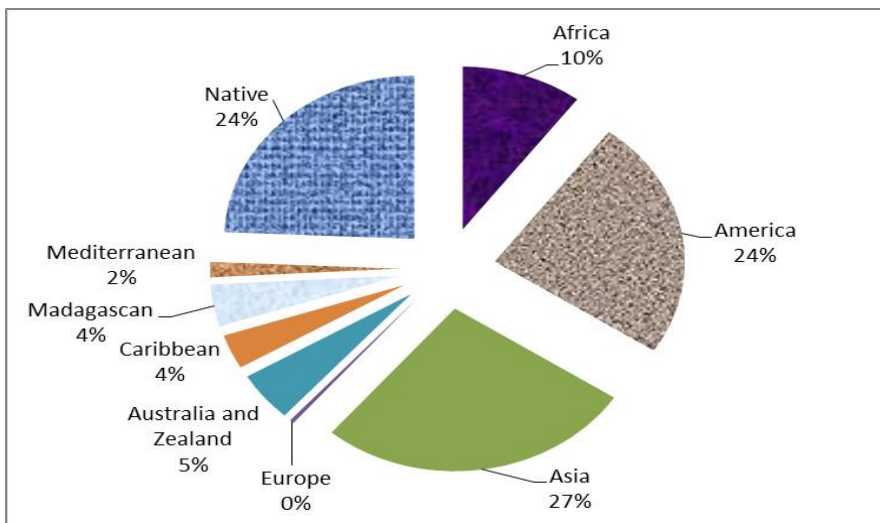


Figure 4 : Distribution of the origins of Burkina Faso urban trees.

DISCUSSION

Floristic diversity

The flora of the city trees includes 251 species compared to the national flora which makes a total of 2067 species Thiombiano et al. (2012) and the ratio was 509 introduced species for 3451 natives in Togo (Radji et al., 2010). However, 36 introduced species not taken into account have been identified in urban flora. They are: *Allamanda blanchetii*, *Aloysia citrodora* Palau, *Aralia balfouriana* André, *A. filicifolia* Ridl., *Araucaria heterophylla* (Salisb.) Franco, *Bismarkia nobilis* Hildebrandt & H. Wendl., *Chamaedora elegans* Mart., *Chamaerops humilis* L., *Corymbia citriodora* (Hook.) K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson, *Dendrocalamus giganteus* Wall ex. Munro, *Diospyros kaki* Thunb., *Dyopsis madagascariensis* (Becc.) Beentje et J. Dransf., *Encephalartos woodii* Sander, *Euphorbia caudalabrum* Kotschy, *E. ingens* E.Mey. ex Boiss., *E. kamerunica* Pax, *E. milii* Des Moul., *E. tithymaloides* L., *Hydrangea paniculata* Siebold, *Hyophorbe lagenicaulis* (L.H.Bailey) H.E.Moor, *Ixora acuminata* Roxb, *I. chinensis* Lam., *I. coccinea* L., *I. macrothyrsa* (Teijsm. & Binn.) R. E. Br., *Jatropha multifida* L., *J. podagrica* Hook., *Morinda citrifolia* L., *Mussaenda philippica* A.Rich., *Olea europae* L., *Opuntia ficus-indica* (L.) Mill., *Plumeria pudica* Jacq., *Rauvolfia viridis* Willd., ex Roemer & Schultes, *Rhopalostylis sapida* (Sol. ex G.Forst.) H.Wendl. & Drude, *Roystonea regia* (Kunth) O.F.Cook, *Scheffleria arboricola* (Hayata) Merr. and *Spondias dulcis* Sol. ex Parkinson.

The richness and diversity of species in this study are superior to those of some African cities studied such as Niamey which has 112 woody species belonging to 88 genera with 37 families and Maradi with 111 woody species belonging to 37 genera, with 34 families (Moussa et al., 2019), 109 ornamental species recorded in Dakar (Dieng et al., 2019) and 176 species reported in Kumassi (Nero et al., 2018), 132 species distributed in 95 genera and 32 families in Ziguinchor (Charahabil et al., 2018), Brazzaville 43 species belonging to 33 genera and 20 families in the sites studied, plus

28 other species in relics of forests located around the city (N'Zala and Miankodila, 2002). Our results are and lower than the 297 species of trees in Lomé in Togo (Raoufou and Kokou, 2013).

As in Burkina Faso, the ornamental flora of Dakar is dominated by Angiosperms which represent 84.61% of families and Gymnosperms (10.26%) (Araucariaceae, Cupressaceae, Cycadaceae and Zamiaceae) (Dieng et al., 2019). On the other hand, the horticultural flora in Togo's cities is rich with 612 woody and herbaceous species, including 20 Pteridophytes, 17 Gymnosperms and 575 Angiosperms with more than 82% which are exotic to Africa (Raoufou and Kokou, 2013).

We found that *Khaya senegalensis* (African mahogany), *Mangifera indica* (mango tree) and *Azadirachta indica* (neem) were the most common species in cities: mango in southern Sudanese cities, African mahogany in northern and southern Sudan, and neem in the Sahelian ones. The last species, introduced from Ghana to Burkina Faso around 1934-1940 (Guinko, 2013; Ganaba, 2000) is also one of the most represented species in the flora of the green spaces of Lomé (45.23%) according to Radji et al. (2010) and Polorigni et al. (2015). The most dominant species (based on density) in Niamey in Niger, are *Azadirachta indica* (neem), *Balanites aegyptiaca* (Thorn tree) and *Terminalia mantaly* (Umbrella tree), (Moussa et al., 2019). The five most common species in the city of Ziguinchor in Senegal are *Azadirachta indica* with a relative frequency of 90% followed by *Mangifera indica* (69%), *Elaeis guineensis* (55%), *Adansonia digitata* (52%) and *Borassus aethiopum* (45%) according to Charahabil et al. (2018). The most importance value index is for *Gmelina arborea* (5.82%), *Azadirachta indica* (3.96%) and *Khaya senegalensis* (3.74%) in Abuja (Agbelade et al., 2016).

Azadirachta indica and *Mangifera indica* are the most dominant species in the northwestern Nigerian cities of Sokoto and Zaria (Danguilla et al., 2020) and the five most common species are *Azadirachta indica* with a relative frequency of 90% followed by *Mangifera indica* (69%), *Elaeis guineensis* (55%), *Adansonia digitata* (52%) and *Borassus*

aethiopum (45%) in Ziguinchor according to Charahabil et al. (2018). In valleys in peri-urban post-conflict zone of Ziguinchor, were dominated to 70% by *Eleais guineensis* (Dasylyva et al., 2017).

Our results indicate that out of the 251 species recorded, 215 species have already been cited in the updated flora of Burkina Faso (Thiombiano et al., 2012), while the 36 others have not been recorded and are among the species whose introductions continue to this day. For an updated total of 3003 species of the flora of Burkina Faso, urban floristic diversity represents for 8.36% of the country's flora.

Origin of Burkina Faso City Trees

Our results corroborate with those of Soma (2012), which found 86.17% exotic species and only 13.83% local species out of 188 ornamental species in nurseries in Ouagadougou. African cities are highly diverse in both native and exotic tree species but the exotic species dominate in many areas (Dangulla and Latifah, 2019). The low representativeness of local plants in ornamental choices is due to ecological and cultural reasons: their low productivity and the relative disinterest of customers (Soma, 2012). In the process of appropriation of urban space, local or spontaneous plants were undesirable and systematically eliminated from domestic and public gardens to make way for exotic ornamental plants, indicatives of cleanliness and order (Menozzi, 1998, 2007; Traoré, 2011). It was mainly Western residents of favored neighborhoods such as the "Zone du Bois" in Zogona and Petit Paris in Gounghin who maintained local species or bought them from local nurseries to decorate their living environment (Korbéogo, 2016).

The difference in climate between Europe and the Sahel may explain the low transfer of species of European and Mediterranean origin, despite colonial ties and rapprochement. The sharing of phylogenetic resources is limited to species such as *Phoenix dactylifera* (date palm). On the other hand, since the tropical zone is shared between Africa, South America, South Asia, Madagascar and Australia, the acclimatization and survival of the

introduced plants is relatively easy and justifies their predominance.

Historically, many testimonies of the elderly indicate that the African mahoganies in our cities would have been planted just after the First World War to provide shade. Thus, the surrounding villages would take turns to send valid arms for planting and maintenance by watering them for a week. This was done in colonial cities such as Ouagadougou, as part of forced labour, as the colonial administration ordered the creation of protected forest areas such as the "Bois de Boulogne" in France, nowadays called Bangr-Weoogo Urban Park (meaning the forest of knowledge) in the middle of the city (Gnoumou et al., 2008).

City Tree Constraints

Urban forests forming ecosystems are more viable than isolated, often monospecific plantations. Moreover, trees in the cities are under enormous pressure, limiting their growth, functions and the ecosystem services. It can pose a threat hazards to infrastructure if not managed properly through tree falls, root incrustations in pipes and building foundations of that crack walls and overhead breaks in electrical and/or telephones wires. A rooting radius twice as large as the tree crown is required to allow the tree to remain stable against the elements. Otherwise, regular pruning of the canopy is required, which reduces the tree's operation and services.

In addition, lack of water is a major factor for urban trees. They can survive increased heat and insect pests unless they are not thirsty according to Meineke and Frank (2018).

Prospects for City Trees

In the city, planting trees is not enough. In the face of rising temperatures, or heat waves, planting trees is not enough to make cities more viable. The services rendered depend on what and where you plant and therefore on the parameters of the environment and how you plant so as not to uproot them shortly afterwards for development. Thus controversy has arisen over the felling of century-old trees in the city of Sya (Bobo Dioulasso) as part of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Burkina Faso's independence in 2010 as part of

the redevelopment of President Thomas Sankara's avenue in Ouagadougou in 2016. However, the dysfunctioning and failures related to the institutional and legal framework could explain the disappearing of the green spaces and reduction of urban trees number according to Polorigni et al. (2015).

Municipalities must then work to maintain and improve this potential through urban forest plantations that are more stable urban forest ecosystems than isolated plantations. The high richness of exotic trees in tropical urban green spaces could be a constraint. However, exotic trees pose a risk to native species and threaten urban and natural ecosystems through biological invasion and harm the maintenance of biodiversity. The native vegetation has an advantage over exotics species in ameliorating the urban heat effect as well as in their ability to cope with heat stress (Aguiar, 2012). Therefore, native or indigenous plants should be the first choice in tropical urban ecosystems (De Souza et al., 2020). In addition, it makes sense to plant fruit trees to endure the edible and resilient city. It was called "urban food forestry" (UFF) by Kyle and Kimberly (2013). Urban fruit trees could have diverse and direct socio-environmental impacts according to Colinas et al. (2019). However natural formations abound with many potentially ornamental species such as *Bombax costatum* Pellegr. & Vuill., *Gardenia ternifolia* Schum. & Thonn. (Korbéogo, 2016), *Carissa edulis* Vahl, *Cochlospermum planchonii* Hook.f, *Combretum collinum* Fresen., *Combretum nigricans* Lepr., *Lannea acida* Rich, *Ozoroa insignis* Kuntze, *Parinari curatellifolia* Planch, (Amani et al., 2019), *Pterocarpus erinaceus* Poir., *Pterocarpus lucens* Lepr., *Dichrostachys cinerea* (L.) Wight & Arn., *Pergularia tomentosa* L., *Strophantus hispidus* DC., etc.

Native trees must be restored to strengthen the resilience of African cities.

Conclusion

This study identified 251 species of tree trees in cities from urban municipalities. This flora comprises 174 genera in 58 families. It is made up of 5.9% of Monocotyledons (2 families) 1.6% of Gymnosperms (4 families) and 92.5% of Dicotyledons (52 families). There are also 178 introduced species and 73 native species. The urban trees come from Africa (34%)

Asia (27%) America (24%) Australia (5%) Caribbean (3% and Madagascar (4%), Europe and the Mediterranean basin less than 2%. All of these city trees are used as trees for alignments, courtyard and service gardens, parks and various green facilities. They provide various ecosystem services, including contributing to the fixation of urban dust from greenhouse gases from vehicles and combustions, reducing hot dry season heat waves, regulating runoff, maintaining various socio-economic and cultural activities in a word improve the living environment of city dwellers. The regressive evolution of the average global urban forest cover is drawing the attention of municipalities to build stable urban forest ecosystems by promoting native species and fruit trees in cities.

COMPETING INTERESTS

The author states that there is no competing interests for this article.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

SG collected the data and wrote the manuscript of this article.

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