

STUDY ON ARECACEAE IN BA NA - NUI CHUA NATURE RESERVE, DA NANG CITY

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Summary

This article presents the results of studies on Palms (Arecaceae) in Ba Na - Nui Chua Nature Reserve, under the collaborative program between New York Botanic Garden (USA) and Forest Inventory and Planning Institute (Vietnam) from 2007 up to now. The objective of the program is to systematically assess the Palms in their key distributed areas, concentrating on Palms in Protected Areas in Vietnam. Transect lines through many forest types are the main method used for field survey, and morphology description and comparison are the main methods used for indoor study. There are 27 species recorded in Ba Na - Nui Chua Nature Reserve belonging to 11 genera, about 27% of the total native species of palms in Vietnam. The palm species here are in many different life forms such as woody columns, climbing, solitary, clustered, both clustered and solitary. Thirteen Palm species are endemic to Vietnam, of which 9 species described as new species to science by Arecaceae studies in Vietnam are also recorded in Ba Na - Nui Chua Nature Reserve. The results of studies show that the Palms are important plants with a large number under timber storey and climbing plants in the natural forest structure in Ba Na - Nui Chua Nature Reserve. Hundred percent Palms are high values or potential values as forest resources.

Keywords: *Arecaceae, Ba Na - Nui Chua Nature Reserve, Da Nang.*