



GLOBAL TREE SPECIALIST GROUP

Newsletter

July 2020

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Introduction

The number of tree assessments included on the IUCN Red List is increasing rapidly as the Global Tree Assessment (GTA) continues to make excellent progress. The next six months will be crucial to achieving our goals, and despite the lack of workshops and meetings, we are so grateful that the GTA momentum has not been lost. BGCI and IUCN staff continue to work from home maintaining the coordination and processing efforts for tree species assessments.

One particular task we would value help with is reviewing Data Deficient species (see below).

We are planning the final outputs of the GTA and as ever welcome your ideas. Looking ahead, we continue to think about future directions for the GTSG. We noted the need for improved means of communications between members as highlighted in the questionnaire earlier this year. This will definitely be a component of future planning for the GTSG as will be the formation of sub-groups. We are also looking at how we can support the work on Key Biodiversity Areas leading to enhanced *in situ* conservation.

In the meantime, a big thank you for all red list assessments, reviews and provision of tree information. We sincerely hope that everyone remains well and safe and is able to enjoy their studies or work.

With very best wishes,
Sara Oldfield & Adrian Newton
(Co-Chairs)



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Get in contact

Twitter: [@GTA_GTSG](https://twitter.com/GTA_GTSG)

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Welcome to new GTSG members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members:

Patricia Barberá-Sánchez: Missouri Botanical Garden
Fiorella Gonzalez: Universidad Católica de Chile
Ben Jones: University of Oxford Botanic Garden and Arboretum
Tariq Stévant: Missouri Botanical Garden

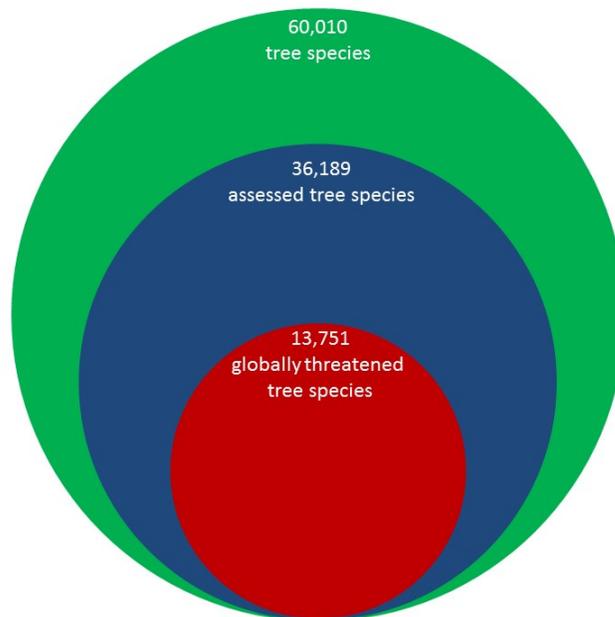
We look forward to keeping in touch and working with you all.



Global Tree Assessment - Progress

July saw an update to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (version 2020.2). In this update 1,954 tree assessments were added to the IUCN Red List, bring the total number of trees assessments available to 23,491 or 39% of tree diversity. To discover highlights from this update check out our [success story](#).

Our latest analysis (13/07/2020) shows that 61% of all trees have a conservation assessment. This includes all known published tree conservation assessments as listed on [ThreatSearch](#) which includes all tree assessments found on the [IUCN Red List](#).



Around 45% of the already assessed trees are assessed as threatened to some level and 38% of all assessed trees are

threatened globally. This means that at least 22% of all tree species are threatened with extinction globally.



GTA – Data Deficient trees

The category of Data Deficient (DD) indicates that there is inadequate information to determine the degree of threat faced by a taxon. In carrying out the GTA, the aim has been to use whatever data is currently available to assess the conservation status of each tree species, accepting that more taxonomic and fieldwork is usually desirable. DD has generally been applied where there is insufficient distribution data or where the data is too uncertain to assign a category.

It is valuable to publish DD assessments on the IUCN Red List as this is a useful indication of where further research is required. Based on the availability of georeferenced data a list of unassessed tree species has been compiled including those for which there is no data. We are now calling on all GTSG members to review this list of species names. The list will be sent separately to this newsletter as an Excel spreadsheet and we will ask you to indicate if you have any knowledge of any of the species. In the absence of new data the species will be submitted for publication on the Red List as DD. Please do help with this task as it will be very valuable to complete the GTA and to indicate future research priorities.

Last Call for 2020 Assessments

Now is the time for us to make a concerted effort to add as many tree species as possible to the pipeline for inclusion on the IUCN Red List in 2020. The next IUCN update deadline is on Wednesday 2nd September. This means there is just over a month to get as many tree assessments submitted to the IUCN Red List unit as possible, so that the assessments will be published in 2020. For your assessments to contribute to this work send any assessment data by 20th August, so it can be processed in time to meet the submission deadline.

Remember all IUCN assessments have a DOI and count as a scientific publication and all reviewers and contributors to assessments are acknowledged in assessments. **Please get in touch with sources of information on tree species - if you have a new paper out or fieldwork results that may be of interest please let us know.**



Genetic Diversity and Conservation of Woody Species

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Gregor Kozlowski

Deadline

10 February 2021

Special Issue

Invitation to submit

Special Journal Issue

We are delighted to hear from GTSG member Gregor Kozlowski that he is the Guest Editor for a Special Issue entitled Genetic Diversity and Conservation of Woody Species, which is launched in the journal *Plants*. *Plants* receives an increased IF of 2.762 and falls now into the highest quartile (Q1) in the category Plant Sciences.

This Special Issue, dedicated to all woody species (trees, shrubs and woody lianas), aims to encourage on-going research and conservation efforts worldwide. Thus, Gregor would warmly welcome contributions (original research paper, review, perspective and opinion) on woody species and their conservation, from different fields of research, such as molecular biology, conservation biology, ecology, biogeography and physiology.

Please find more information under:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/plants/special_issues/genetic_diversity_conservation_woody_species

Although the deadline for submission of manuscripts to this Special Issue is 10 February 2021, Gregor would appreciate hearing in the next few weeks from anyone interested in submitting a paper in order to help with the planning of the publication.

Meetings and Conferences

We are sorry that the schedule of workshops and meetings planned for 2020 has now been disrupted. Some meetings may be re-scheduled. We will, of course, keep in touch about this and also post updates on the GTA website

Key Resources

The GTA and GTC have a plethora of tree conservation resources available please visit the addresses below to find the resources to meet your needs:

- <https://globaltreeassessment.org/resources/>
- <https://globaltrees.org/resources/>
- [GlobalTreeSearch database](#)
- [ThreatSearch database](#)

Our resources are available in English, French, Spanish and Chinese. If you have additional resources you would like to share or any comments on our current resources please get in touch.

Keep in Touch

If you would like to be involved in further planning discussions for the GTSG please do contact Sara Oldfield: sara@saraoldfield.net
Thank you!

If you have had a tree conservation or tree red list success we would love to share your story or raise awareness of any tree projects, plans and publications on twitter or websites. Please let us know what you have been up to! Drop us an email (redlist@bgci.org), follow Global Tree Assessment Progress on twitter [@GTA_GTSG](#) and check out the [GTA website](#) for updates and find out about our practical conservation efforts on twitter [@globaltrees](#) and the [GTC Website](#).