

“Exploring the benefits of plant galls”

JUSTIFICATION

Study of plant-frugivore lemur-insect: not so many yet in Madagascar biodiversity

OBJECTIVE

How plant galls influence plant frugivore interactions and plant fitness?

GOALS

- Characterize how gall conspicuousness affect frugivore attractions to infested plants
- Investigate the importance of gall in frugivore diet
- Determine the ecological consequences of galls on plant fitness

METHODS

- Use data on field observations of seed dispersal by two lemur species
- Analyses of gall trait in the field and in laboratory (morphological and nutritional)
- Modeling data process



Galls on plant

Eulemur fulvus

Varecia variegata

EXPECTED RESULTS

This project will provide novel perspectives in our understanding of plant-animal interactions in Madagascar's tropical ecosystems