



Universidad Nacional Toribio Rodríguez de Mendoza de Amazonas - UNTRM | Chachapoyas, Amazonas - Perú

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Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa
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Dear Editor,

I hereby enclose the manuscript entitled “Morpho-phenotypic evaluation of algarrobo (*Neltuma pallida*) for the identification of superior individuals in dry forest ecosystems” by Sebastian Casas-Niño *et al.* to be considered for publication in *Forest*.

Our research demonstrates that *Neltuma pallida*, a key species of the dry forest, exhibits high morpho-phenotypic variability among populations. The characterization of individual trees allowed the identification of plus trees with superior attributes. Furthermore, the estimated heritability coefficients revealed traits with greater genetic control and higher potential response to selection. These findings provide a solid foundation for genetic improvement and conservation programs of *Neltuma pallida*, aimed at ecological restoration and the sustainable management of the Peruvian dry forest.

We think this manuscript is suitable for publication as the research reflects the aims and scope of your journal. We confirm that neither the manuscript nor any parts of its content are currently under consideration for publication with or published in another journal. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission to *Forest*.

Yours sincerely,

Flavio Lozano-Isla
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