

Guides on taxonomy, applications and conservation priorities for the genus *Inga* in the Chocó region

Expeditions aim:

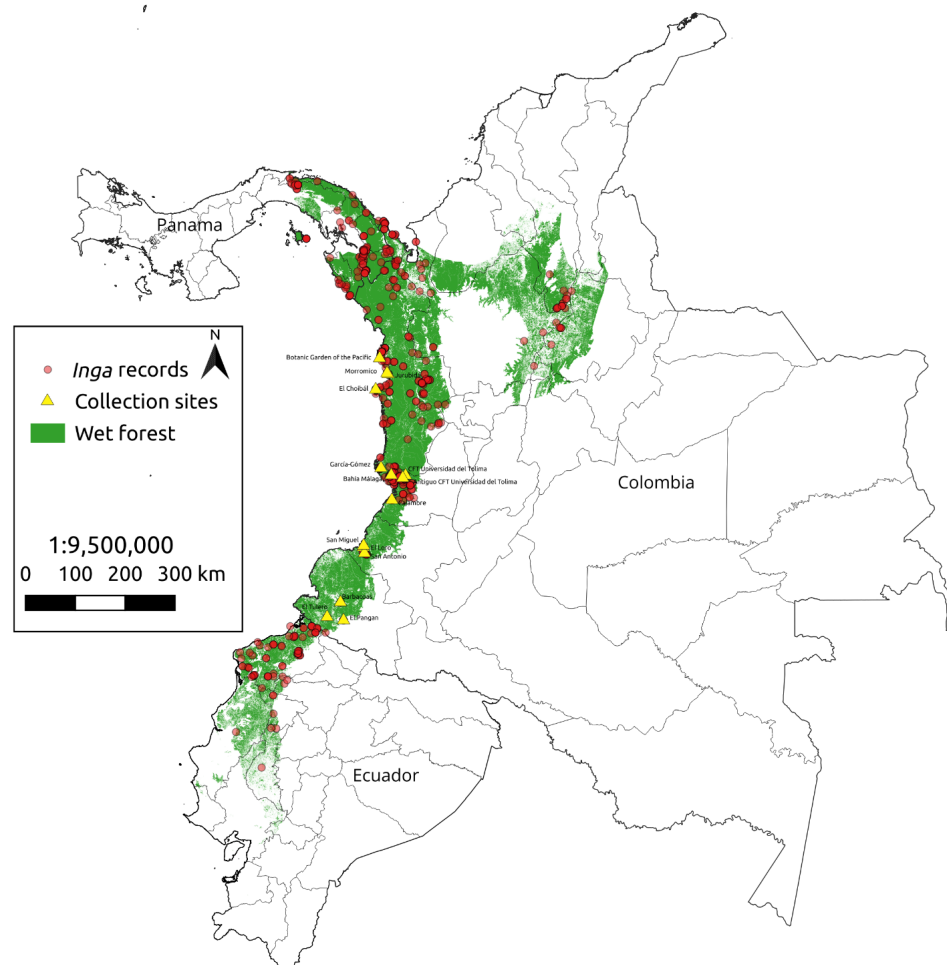
Creates resource guides focused on the genus *Inga* in the Chocó region, tailored for both the academic and local communities.

Methodology

Field Expeditions: Through three field expeditions were explored 15 localities in the Chocó region. In each locality, *Inga* species were sampled, and data on uses and local names were recorded during exploration along community-identified forest trails.

Herbarium Collections: Over 1200 herbarium specimens from the region were examined. Information, including department, locality, elevation, common names, and uses, was extracted from herbarium labels.

Data Compilation: All data, from both herbarium labels and fieldwork, were consolidated into an Excel sheet containing species lists, regional distribution, morphological characteristics, and usage details. This information guided the creation of an academic book and community brochures.



The genus *Inga* in the Chocó region



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GUÍA PARA EL RECONOCIMIENTO DE LOS USOS DE *INGA* EN LA REGIÓN DEL CHOCÓ



The community guides, organized into three sections, delve into *Inga* utilization within Chocó communities, *Inga*'s potential role in ecological restoration, and the conservation status of *Inga* in the Chocó region. These guides, crafted in Spanish, are customized for local contexts and are slated for distribution among participating communities in 2024.

Conclusions

- Three field expeditions, along with the review of over 1000 herbarium specimens, were essential to update the status of the *Inga* genus in the Chocó region.
- The Chocó region boasts the second-highest diversity of the *Inga* genus, surpassed only by the Amazon basin.
- Details on 68 *Inga* species in the region have been published, aiming to enhance understanding of the genus and its taxonomic delimitation.

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Results: The book, "*The Genus Inga in the Chocó Region*," comprises five chapters, presenting ecological insights, taxonomic reviews, and details on 68 *Inga* species. Eleven species are endemic, with three classified as Endangered, three as Vulnerable, and one as Near Threatened, as per IUCN categorization. The book includes comprehensive species information with accompanying photographs.