**Above-ground Biomass Estimation for Evergreen Broadleaf Forests in Xuan Lien Nature Reserve, Thanh Hoa, Viet Nam**

By The Dung Nguyen and Martin Kappas

**Abstract:**

The estimation of above-ground biomass (AGB) and carbon sequestration in forests plays as a key role to modeling carbon cycle and has a significant concern in addressing the potential areas for carbon credits under Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation-Plus (REDD+). This study was conducted to estimate the living AGB for evergreen broadleaf forests in Xuan Lien Nature Reserve, Viet Nam with the purpose of providing data for sustainable forest management and baseline data for carbon monioring. These forest stands was classified to four categories by governmental standard basing on standing volume (V), including poor forest (V ≤ 100 m3 ha-1), medium forest (100 < V ≤ 200 m3 ha-1), rich forest (200 < V ≤ 300 m3ha-1), and very rich forest (V > 300 m3ha-1). A total of 380 sampling plots were randomly stratified sampled and all trees with DBH ≥ 5.0cm were included for biomass estimation. Values for aboveground biomass were obtained using published allometric equations. The results indicated that the AGB increased from 82.0±5.3 Mg ha-1 in poor forest to 127.3±10.8 Mg ha-1 in medium forest, 184.3±15.6 Mg ha-1 in rich forest, and to 303.2±21.8 Mg ha-1 in very rich forest (95% confidence interval). The uncertainty for the estimated AGB were low (< 8.5%) at 95% confidence level. Trying to test the corelation of AGB with the varying of altitude (from 108 to 1452 m a.s.l) shows that, AGB has a positive relationship with elevation (R2 = 0.53). It is concluded that tropical evergreen broadleaf forest has significant amount of above-ground carbon stock, and there is strong reductions of above-ground biomass by the degree of human disturbance.

**Keywords:** Above-ground Biomass, Carbon Stock, Broadleaf Forest, Uncertainty