Interelement relationships in leaves of tropical montane trees

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Abstract

Chemical concentrations in leaves are reported for 14 elements in 6 tree species of a montane rain forest in Sri Lanka. The plant taxa varied greatly in chemistry and a few taxa appeared to concentrate several elements in high amounts. The chemical variability among taxonomic units was examined by comparing element-by-element concentration ratios in leaves. Several species seemed to have typical patterns of concentration ratios for certain elements and the interelement relationships of different species seemed to be repeated across varying habitat conditions.