Data Set Owner(s):

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Geographic Coverage:

Uberlândia, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Bounding Coordinates:

West: �-48.23� degrees

South: �-19.10� degrees

Temporal Coverage:

Begin: January/2011

End: February/2012

Project Info:

Title: Direct and indirect effects of leaf-cutter ants on vegetation dynamics of a Neotropical savanna

Description: Data on the number of seed removed of 12 common Cerrado woody species in sites with and without foraging activity of the leaf-cutter ants *Atta laevigata* (Myrmecinae: Attini) in a Brazilian Cerrado area.

Methods:

We expose diaspores (fruits or seeds) of 12 common Cerrado woody species to predator removal in 30 stations near 15 leaf-cutter ant (*Atta laevigata*) nests within a cerrado *strictu sensu* area. For each nest was established a seed removal station near a activity foraging trial and other station approx. twenty-five meters away in a place without evidence of recent *Atta* activity. Seeds were exposure on ten plastic plates by removal station for 24 hours, with record of final total seed removed. The experiment was performed, one species at a time, simultaneously in all 30 grids during the natural production of seed in the study site.

Column Headings:

Number: refers to the sequential number of each observation.

Ant Nest: refers to the independent number of each nest in total nests studies.

Treatment: refers to the proximity of seed removal station to foraging trail.

Plate: refers to the independent number of each plate in total by seed removal station.

Plant species: refers to each Cerrado woody species studied.

Seed exposed: refers to the total number of seed exposed by plate. One seed was placed in each plate for *Brosimum gaudichaudii* and *Eugenia calycina*, and three seeds for other species.

Seed removed: refers to the total seeds removed by plate after 24 hours.