

URBAN INFLUENCE ON LITTERFALL TRACE METALS FLUXES IN THE ATLANTIC FOREST OF SAO PAULO (Brazil).

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RESUMO

A monitoring project for two forest catchments was established in 2001 in Sao Paulo state, Brazil. The chosen catchment area, PEFI (23°39'S and 46° 37'W), is inside the largest metropolis of South America, the city of Sao Paulo, within a Park of 549.3 ha , located about 50 km away from the ocean. The other catchment area, CUNHA (between parallels 23°13'18" and 23°16'10" South and meridians 45°02'563"and 45°02'53" West), is within a State Reserve of the Atlantic Forest, with 2850ha, located about 15 km from the ocean, surrounde by rural areas and small villages. PEFI is about 798m above ea level, while CUNHA is about 1050m. In this work we examined the monthly litterfall trace metal (fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, Cr, Pb, Cd, Hg) fluxes for both catchments during the 2001 dry season (may to september). Trace element concentration were also determined in soils CUNHA is characterized by low fluxes and low concentrations in soil, compared with PEFI. The same tendency was also observed for rainfall and throughfall Fe, Mn, Zn and Cu fluxes.