

**STUDY OF TERRITORIAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE MANGROVE SPECIES  
*RHIZOPHORA MANGLE, RHIZOPHORA RACEMOSA, AND PELLICIERA  
RHIZOPHORAE, ON TÉRRABA-SIERPE NATIONAL WETLANDS, 2012.***

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**THEME:** Forests, biodiversity and terrestrial ecosystems

**KEY WORDS:** Satellite image, supervised classification, Geographic Information System

**ABSTRACT:** Coastal marine ecosystems such as mangroves are influenced by the presence of salt and fresh water land, are distributed in the tropics and some cases in the subtropics. In Costa Rica mangroves are located in both the Pacific coast and the coast of the Caribbean Sea. In the last decade, anthropogenic actions such as forest clearing for planting rice, agrochemicals discharge to course of rivers, erosion and sedimentation because of infrastructure development, deteriorated have these ecosystems. The objective of this investigation was to identify and determine the distribution of species of Rhizophora mangle and Rhizophora racemosa, Pelliciera rhizophorae in Terraba-Sierpe National Wetland using remote sensors. The research was conducted in two stages: (a) use of GIS for processing and supervised classification of a 2012 Rapid Eye image with Spectral Angle Mapper classifier and (b) validation of the map with Global Positioning System filed control points. A land cover map was obtained, with an area of 3295ha distributed as follows: 1487ha occupied by P. rhizophorae equivalent to 47% of the area, 1033ha of R. mangle and Pelliciera rhizophorae an equivalent of 32% coverage, the remaining area 775 ha corresponds to other land cover. The study conclude that the species with the highest prevalence is P. rhizophorae research is recommended to follow up which anthropogenic actions are affecting other areas of the wetland.