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Atlântico tropical

Karen Otoni de Oliveira Lima, Mônica Maria Pereira Tognella, Simone Rabelo Cunha,
Humber Agreli de Andrade

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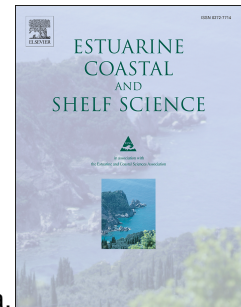
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Growth models of *Rhizophora mangle* L. seedlings in tropical southwestern Atlantic

Modelos de crescimento de plântulas de *Rhizophora mangle* L. no sudoeste do Atlântico

Tropical

Karen Otoni de Oliveira Lima¹, Mônica Maria Pereira Tognella^{1,2*}, Simone Rabelo Cunha³,
Humber Agrelli de Andrade⁴

¹ Departamento de Oceanografia, Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo. Avenida Fernando Ferrari, 514, CEP 29075-910, Vitória, ES, Brazil.

² Departamento de Ciência Agrárias e Biológicas, Centro Universitário Norte do Espírito Santo, Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo. Rodovia BR 101 Norte, km. 60, Bairro Litorâneo, CEP 29932-540 São Mateus, ES, Brazil.

³ Departamento de Oceanografia, CTG, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE), Av. Arquitetura, s/n, Cidade Universitária, Recife, PE 50670-901, Brazil

⁴ Laboratório de Modelagem Estatística Aplicada, Departamento de Pesca e Aquicultura Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco, Recife, PE, Brazil

*Corresponding author: monica.tognella@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The present study selected and compared regression models that best describe the growth curves of *Rhizophora mangle* seedlings based on the height (cm) and time (days) variables. The Linear, Exponential, Power Law, Monomolecular, Logistic, and Gompertz models were adjusted with non-linear formulations and minimization of the sum of the squares of the residues. The Akaike Information Criterion was used to select the best model for each seedling. After this selection, the determination coefficient, which evaluates how well a model describes height variation as a time function, was inspected. Differing from the classic population ecology studies, the Monomolecular, Three-parameter Logistic, and Gompertz models presented the best performance in describing growth, suggesting they are the most adequate options for long-term

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