

LBA-ECO LC-23 Characterizing Vegetation Fire Dynamics for Brazil: 2001-2003

Brazilian Biome Classifications and Descriptions

The major biomes of Brazil identified in this data set are cross-referenced to classifications and descriptions from other sources. Citations and links to these additional sources are provided at the end of the table.

Ecosystem Classification provided with data set (Portuguese)	Classification provided in Schroeder et al., 2005	Classification derived from identified sources	Representative Wild World Terrestrial Ecoregions	General Neotropical Ecoregion Classification	Representative Wild World Neotropical Ecoregion Codes	Description
Caatinga	Semiarid vegetation	Scrubland and Dry Forest	Caatinga	Deserts & Xeric Shrublands	NT1304	The Caatinga scrubland is the largest dry forest region in South America and characterized by a semi - arid climate, low and irregular rainfall, and fertile soils.
Campinarana	Sparse vegetation with grass	Heath Forests	Rio Negro campinarana	Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests	NT0158	Campinaranas, or "heath forests," are forest mosaics with vegetation types ranging from open herbaceous savannas to closed canopy forests. These patches occur on the transition between the Guyana Shield and Amazon basin. Here, vegetation types depend more on the soil type than on rainfall or temperature. Some campinarana patches cover thousands of square kilometers, while others are much smaller and irregularly shaped.
Campos	Sparse vegetation with grass	Savanna	Guyanana savanna, Uruguayan savanna	Tropical & Subtropical Grasslands, Savannas, & Shrublands	NT0707, NT0710	The large, relatively intact grasslands of the Guyanana Savanna ecoregion lie between the Amazon and Orinoco River Basins in northern South America.
Campos Campanha Gaucha	Sparse vegetation with grass	Savanna	Uruguayan savanna	Tropical & Subtropical Grasslands, Savannas, & Shrublands	NT0710	The Uruguayan Savanna ecoregion encompasses the entire country of Uruguay and parts of southeastern Brazil and northeastern Argentina. Sparsely wooded grasslands, gallery forests, open forests, and palm savanna once spread across this region, but now most of these habitats have been converted to agriculture and other uses. In the scattered remnants, a fantastic array of wildlife finds refuge.
Campos de Roraima	Sparse vegetation with grass	Savanna	Guyanana savanna	Tropical & Subtropical Grasslands, Savannas, & Shrublands	NT0707	The large, relatively intact grasslands of the Guyanana Savanna ecoregion lie between the Amazon and Orinoco River Basins in northern South America.
Cerrado	Sparse vegetation with grass	Tropical Savanna	Cerrado	Tropical & Subtropical Grasslands, Savannas, & Shrublands	NT0704	Cerrado is the regional name given to the Brazilian tropical savanna and is located on the large plateau that occupies the central highlands.

Complexo do Pantanal	Recurrent flooded area	Wetland	Pantanal	Flooded Grasslands and Savannas	NT0907	The Pantanal biome is located in the watershed of the Upper Paraguay River. With 250.000 km ² it is the largest area of fresh water marshes in the world, shared between Brazil (60%), Bolivia and Paraguay.
Floresta Amazonica	Amazon forest	Amazon Rainforest	Amazon Rainforest	Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests	NT0135, NT0173, and others	Amazon Rainforest
Floresta Estacional	Deciduous forest	Seasonal Rainforest	Seasonal Rainforest, Parañá-Paraíba interior forests, Bahia interior forests, for example	Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests	NT0150 and NT0104, for example	Seasonal Rainforest Ecosystems. The deciduous and semideciduous seasonal rainforest are ecosystems of the Atlantic Rainforest biome that occur mostly in the higher and cooler elevations of the mountains ranges in Southeastern Brazil.
Ilha	Island	Island	Serra do Mar coastal forests, Atlantic Coast restingas, Alvarado mangroves, for example	Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests, Mangrove, for example	NT0160, NT0102, NT1406, for example	<p>The Serro do Mar Coastal Forests form the southern extremes of eastern Brazilian rain forest, where the diversity of plants is astounding. The habitat is predominantly tropical lowland evergreen forest, with areas of coastal restinga, gallery forest, and scrub. These forests occur around bustling Rio de Janeiro, south along the coast for several hundred miles, gradually becoming the Uruguayan Savanna. In the patches of mountainous area, humid forests give way to conifer forests and form islands of this unique habitat. The isolation of these habitat islands has led to the evolution of a large number of endemic species.</p> <p>Along the Atlantic coast of central Brazil lie three distinct patches of restingas forests, all characterized by the prominent sand dunes on which they grow. These forests vary from short shrub-like vegetation to tall forests distributed over sandy soils.</p> <p>Plants float freely among red, white, and black mangroves. Numerous fish and invertebrates find protection among the trees' network of roots, which act as barriers to large predatory species.</p>
Mata Atlantica	Atlantic coast forest	Atlantic Rainforest	Atlantic Rainforest, Bahia coastal forests, Serra do Mar coastal forests, for example	Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests	NT0103, NT160, for example	The Atlantic Rainforest stretches for about 4.000 km along the Atlantic coast of Brazil from the state of Rio Grande do Norte down to Rio Grande do Sul. With a total size of 1.1 million sq km, it is after the Amazon and the Cerrado the third largest biome in Brazil

Mata dos Pinheiros	Pine forest	Pine Forest	Araucaria Moist Forests	Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests	NT0101	<p>The Araucaria Moist Forests grow across the mountainous areas of southern Atlantic Brazil and extend into northeastern Argentina.</p> <p>In the Brazilian Southern Plateau, with altitudes in excess of 500m, is the area of distribution for the pinheiro (pine tree) do Paraná, <i>Araucaria angustifolia</i>, that occupies about 2,6% of the national territory. In these forests, representatives of the tropical and temperate flora of Brazil coexist, being dominated, however, by the pinheiro-do-Paraná.</p>
Vegetacao Costeira	Coastal vegetation	Coastal Vegetation	Atlantic Coast restingas, Marajó varzea, Alvarado mangroves, for example	Tropical & Subtropical Moist Broadleaf Forests, Mangrove, for example	NT0102, NT0138, NT1401, and others	<p>Along the Atlantic coast of central Brazil lie three distinct patches of restingas forests, all characterized by the prominent sand dunes on which they grow. These forests vary from short shrub-like vegetation to tall forests distributed over sandy soils.</p> <p>The Marajó Várzea Forest lies at the delta of the Amazon River and is made up of swamps, which are permanently wet, and floodplain forests, which are periodically wet. Palm trees predominate on higher ground, while the riverbanks are covered with dense thickets of shrubs and vines.</p> <p>Plants float freely among red, white, and black mangroves. Numerous fish and invertebrates find protection among the trees' network of roots, which act as barriers to large predatory species.</p>
<p>Source: Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis (IBAMA) (Schroeder et al., 2005)</p>	<p>Source: Schroeder, W., J.T. Morisette, I. Csiszar, L. Giglio, D. Morton, and C.O. Justice. 2005. Characterizing Vegetation Fire Dynamics in Brazil through Multisatellite Data: Common Trends and Practical Issues. <i>Earth Interactions</i> 9(13):1-26.</p>		<p>Source: http://www.nationalgeographic.com/wildworld/terrestrial.html</p>	<p>Source: http://www.nationalgeographic.com/wildworld/profiles/terrestrial_nt.html</p>	<p>Source: http://www.nationalgeographic.com/wildworld/profiles/terrestrial_nt.html</p>	<p>Source: http://www.ibama.gov.br/ and http://www.nationalgeographic.com/wildworld/profiles/terrestrial_nt.html</p>