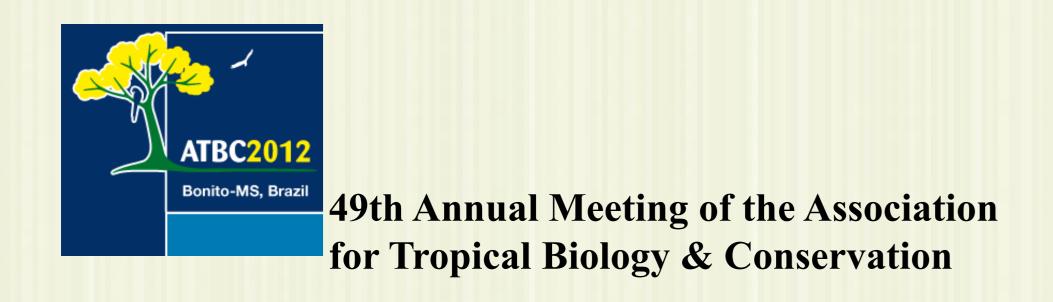
HANDROANTHUS SPONGIOSUS (RIZZINI) S. GROSE (BIGNONIACEAE): A SPECIES ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION?

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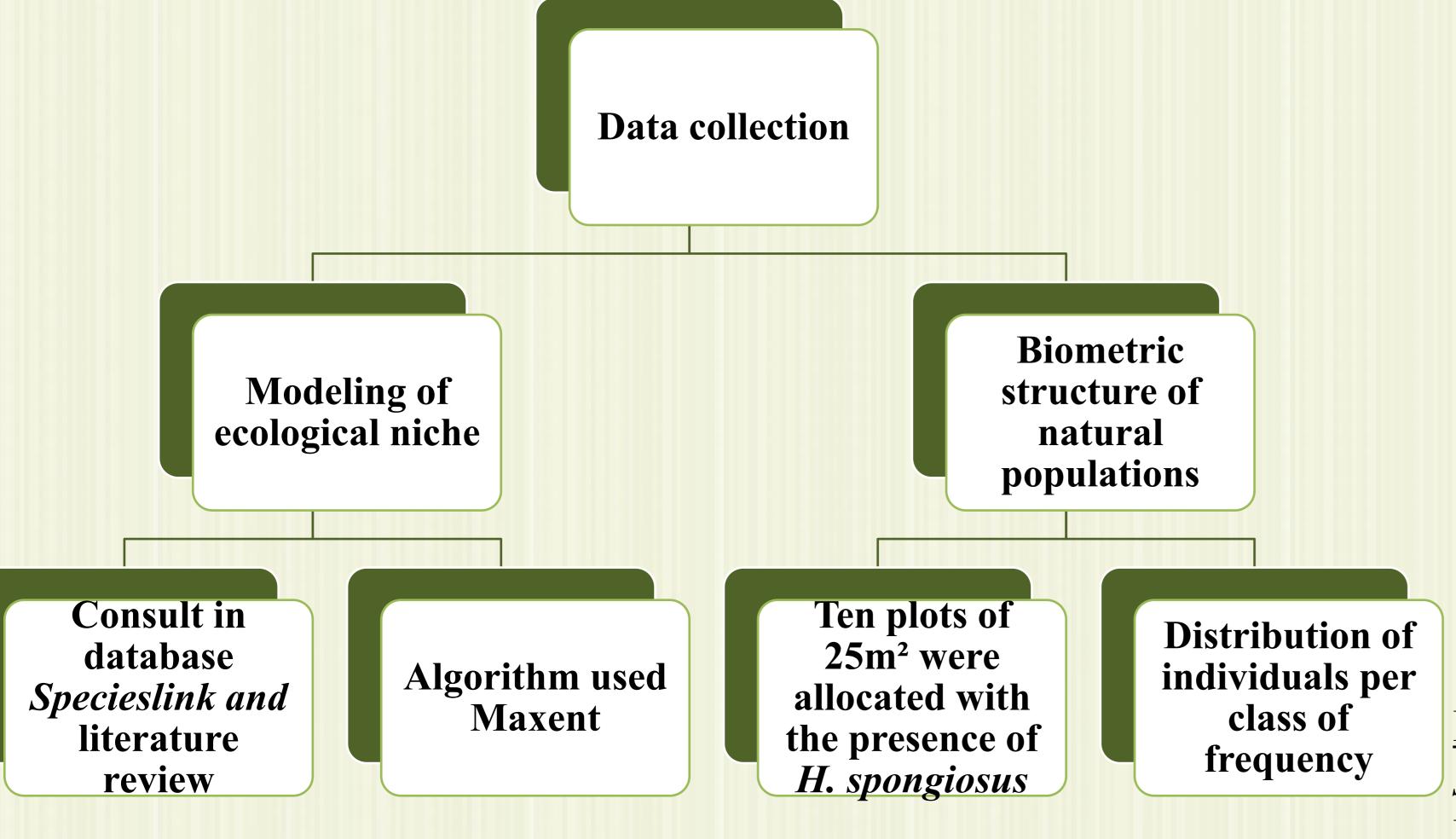
INTRODUCTION

Handroanthus spongiosus (Bignoniaceae) is a species currently categorized as "data deficient" according to the species list of Brazilian flora under risk of extinction. The analysis of the structure and size of the natural populations of a species and the stability of these populations are still insufficiently tested to infer about the conservation status of the species, in spite of being relevant factors.

OBJECTIVE

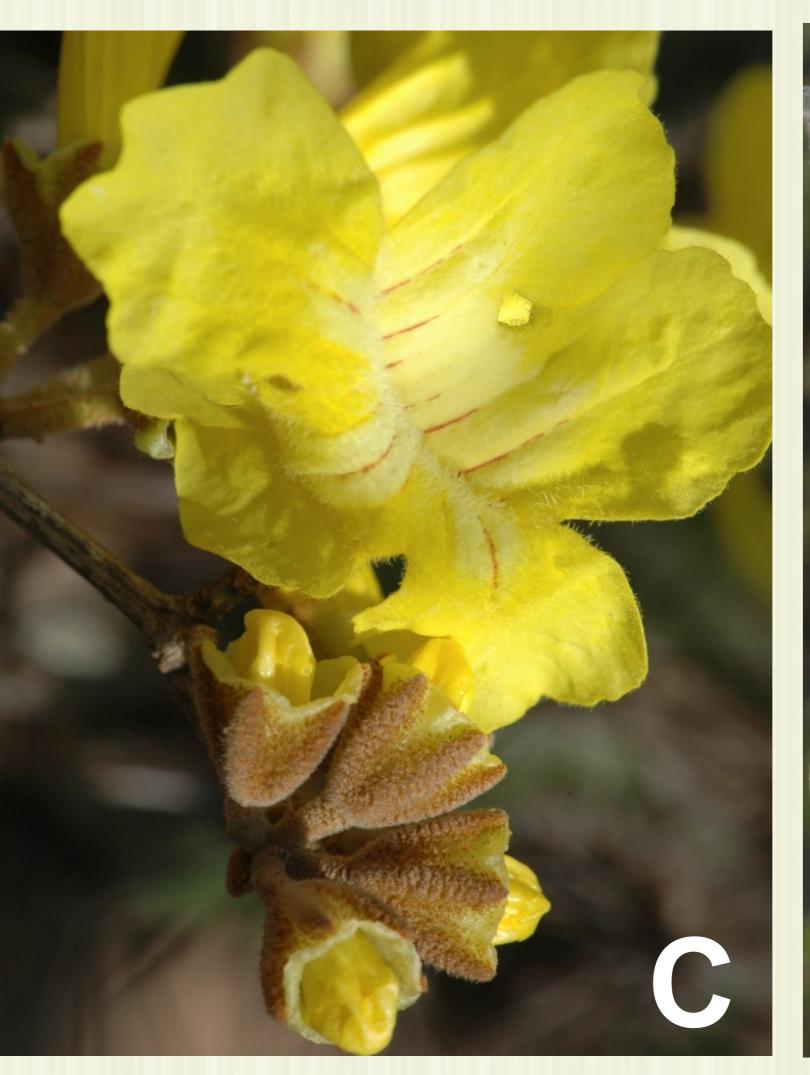
The aim of this paper was to evaluate the conservation status of *Handroanthus spongiosus*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS







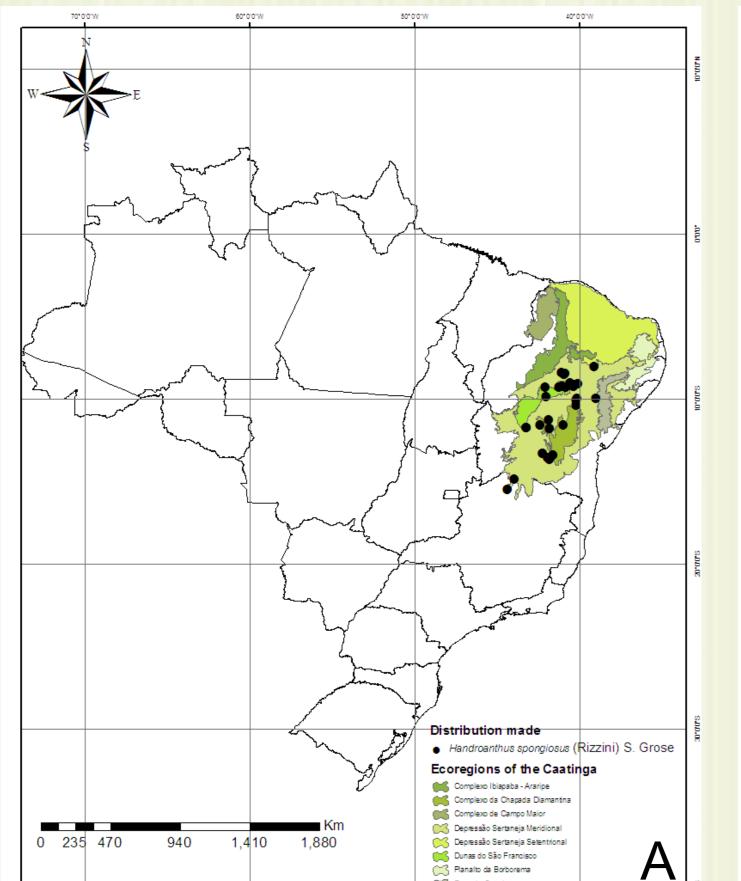




<u>Figure 1:</u> Events of flowering phenology explosive *Handroanthus spongiosus* (Bignoniaceae). A- Habit, B - Floral button, C - Flower and D - Dehiscent fruit.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Municipality – State	Number of Individuals	Number of Regenerants	Number of Adults
Afrânio – PE	26	3 (11.0%)	23 (89.0%)
Jaguarari – BA	96	64 (67.0%)	32 (33.0%)
Petrolina – PE	173	160 (92.0%)	13 (8.0%)
Salgueiro – PE	94	14 (14.9%)	80 (85.1%)
Casa Nova – BA	310	269 (86.8%)	41 (13.2%)
Lagoa Grande – PE	872	857 (98.3%)	15 (1.7%)
Juazeiro – BA	80	23 (28.7%)	57 (71.2%)





CONCLUSION

The evidence presented here, associated to the restricted geographical distribution of the species, categorize it as a vulnerable species under risk of extinction, according to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

<u>Figure 2:</u> A - Distribution held and ecoregions of the Caatinga. B - Ecological Niche Modeling *Handroanthus spongiosus* (Bignoniaceae).