

PHYLOGEOGRAPHY OF THE *Schizolobium parahyba* (LEGUMINOSAE) BASED ON CLOROPLAST SEQUENCE DATA

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Schizolobium parahyba occurs in secondary tropical and sub tropical forests of Santa Catarina state in the south of Brazil until Mexico. The specie has been considered as two varieties: var. *parahyba* and var. *amazonicum*, with a disjoined distribution. It represents economic (lumbering) and ecologic (establishment of succession of native species) importance. The study of phylogeography, based on molecular markers, aims the analysis of the geographic distribution of genealogical ancestries to determine the evolutionary history of the populations, subspecies and species. Here we present a phylogeography studied of *S. parahyba* based on four chloroplastic loci. Universal primer combinations were used for cpDNA amplification and sequencing, from plants of five populations. Four haplotypes were identified in *psbA_trnH* (400 bp), two in *trnL_F* (451 bp) and two in *rps16* intron (274). No polymorphism was observed inside the 521 bp fragment corresponding to the *trnL* intron. All individuals from var. *amazonicum* present a single and totally distinct haplotype for *psbA_trnH* and *trnL_F* sequences if compared to var. *parahyba*. An increased number of sequences, from individuals of distinct areas of occurrence of the species, have to be analyzed to confirm the hypothesis that varieties correspond in fact to different species. Financial Support: CNPq, EU-FP6.

Key words: *Schizolobium parahyba*, cpDNA, phylogeography