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## Diversity, distribution, and threats of the Juglandaceae in Vietnam

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**Abstract:** Vietnam is one of the main centers of generic diversity for Juglandaceae worldwide. In this study, we present for the first time a province-wide distribution of all 3 subfamilies, 7 genera, and 11 Vietnamese species, and give an update on the habitats of all Vietnamese Juglandaceae species, their uses, and current threats. Juglandaceae are found throughout Vietnam. However, most species occur predominantly in the northern part of the country between 600 and 1200 m. Some taxa range is found extensively from sea level up to 2,500 meters above sea level. According to the IUCN Red List, *Rhoiptelea chiliantha*, *Carya sinensis*, and *Pterocarya tonkinensis* are threatened while *Engelhardia spicata*, *E. serrata*, *Alfaropsis roxburghiana*, *Pterocarya stenoptera* are classified as least concerned (*Carya tonkinensis* is threatened locally, and *Engelhardia spicata* var. *colebrookiana* and *Platycarya strobilacea* merit “threatened” designation in Vietnam’s Red Data Book. The most frequent threats are logging, land-use change, and habitat destruction due to artificial wood plantations or road construction. Until now, no conservation measures have been applied for any of the species in Vietnam, although some species occur in national parks.

Our study gives an important update on the current diversity and distribution of Juglandaceae in Vietnam. We point out the need for a correct assessment of the threat status of various species on a national and international scale to protect the rarest and most endangered of them. Further research, the use of various forms of protection of individual taxa and/or their habitats, and drawing the attention of an international group of researchers to the urgent need to work together to protect biodiversity in Vietnam hot spots are necessary.

**Keywords:** Conservation biology, relict trees, *Rhoiptelea*, *Engelhardia*, *Alfaropsis*

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## Introduction

The Juglandaceae are one of the most emblematic angiosperm families composed entirely of woody species (Simpson, 2010). Additionally, since all its members are relict trees, the Walnut family has a high scientific and conservation value (Schaarschmidt, 2014; Kozłowski, Bétrisey & Song 2018). Attempts to explain the vague phylogenetic relationships, taxonomy, and biogeography of the Juglandaceae have been and are still being undertaken by successive researchers (e.g. Manning, 1978; Manchester, 1987; Manos & Stone, 2001; Manos et al., 2007; Mu et al., 2020; Song et al., 2020a, b), but still requires further research, especially within the Juglandoideae subfamily, where the phylogenetic relationships of the six genera are still uncertain. The family, including the monotypic genus *Rhoiptelea*, is monophyletic and

comprises ten extant genera and approximately sixty species of trees (Manos & Steele, 1997; Stone, 1993) mostly distributed throughout mid and low latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere.

Southeast Asia is a global biodiversity hotspot in terms of both plant and animal species (Song et al., 2020a; Šlechtová et al., 2021). Vietnam makes a significant contribution to this biodiversity, despite a history of massive forest damage during the Vietnam War, a large number of highly endangered terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems, and a still unclear conservation policy (MOF, 1991; Department of Forest Protection, 1997; Mercker & Vu, 1997). Vietnam, as one of the plant biodiversity centers (Hoang, Baas & Ke ler, 2008; Hoang et al., 2011), is considered the second (after China) geographic region of generic diversity of Juglandaceae (Kozłowski, Bétrisey & Song, 2018). The main differences in the number of genera

Table 1. Herbarium specimens examined. Abbreviations: Vietnam Forestry Herbarium (VNF), Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (HN), Institute of Tropical Biology Vietnam (VNM), VNU University of Science, Hanoi (HNU), Cuc Phuong National Park Vietnam (CPNP), Forest Inventory and Planning Institute Vietnam (VFM), the National Museum of Natural History of Paris (P)

Taxon	Specimens examined
<i>Rhoiptelea chiliantha</i>	NV Ly 005, 007, 008, 009, Thanh SP 26, Thanh SP27 (VNF)
<i>Engelhardia spicata</i> var. <i>spicata</i>	Anonymous 17441 (HN); Averyanov L & NQ Binh 4534 (HN); Averyanov L et al. 780 (HN); DK Harde et.al 63, 6013 (HN); DH Lien 1760 (HN); L Pierre 3304 (VNM); LV Thuan 75, 387, 10387 (VFM); NN Chinh 4327 (VFM); NQ Binh & DD Cuong 185, 2274 (HN); NT Hiep et al. 9286 (HN); NV Lien 91 399 (VFM); PV Dung 1567 (VNF); Petelot 7641 (VNM); Poilane 1717, 24697 (HN), 5766, 13631 (VNM); TD Dai 1204 (HN); TN Ninh 764 (HN); Thorel 5289 (VNM); VV Dung & NN Chinh 4325 (VFM); VV Dung 4324 (VFM); Vidal 890 (VNM), HV Sam 234, 235 (VNF)
<i>Engelhardia spicata</i> var. <i>colebrookiana</i>	DH Lien 1760 (HN); LV Thuan 75 (VFM); Petelot 7641 (VNM); Poilane 5766, 13631 (VNM); Vidal 890 (VNM), Thanh 156, 290, 291, 292 (VNF)
<i>Engelhardia serrata</i>	DK Harde et.al 330 (HN); L Pierre 3301 (VNM); Poilane 13631, 33361 (VNM); Thorel 2807 (VNM); W. E Manning 5837 (HN)
<i>Alfaropsis roxburghiana</i>	Anonymous 76, 635; 5326,30113; 32309; 37957; 38016, 38403 (HN); Averyanov L et al. 147, 2037, 2296 (HN); DD Soejarto et al. 9764 (HN); DT Phieu 960 (VNF); DT Thinh 89 (VFM); DE Atha et al. 5803-96 (HN); LV Luan 1367 (VNF); LV Thuan 5929 (VFM); NV Lien 6524 (VFM); NV Thanh 963 (VNF); PD Linh 1414 (VNF), NV Ly 003, PH 43, PH44, PH45 (VNF); PK Loc et al. 019489 (HNU); PN Dung 8A, 8B, 20A (VNM); P Thao 704 (VFM); Petelot 5961, 8204, 8836 (VNM); Poilane 4289; 25770, 26982 (HN), 21A , 60, 4289, 5925, 7888, 8018, 12164, 13110, 15722 (VNM) ; TN Ninh & Dumontet V 5727 (HN); VV Can 60 (VFM); WE Manning 21786 (HN);
<i>Carya sinensis</i>	NH Hien 289 (HN), Duong CP 01, CP 02 (VNF); HV Sam 55, 56, 59, BE 25, BE 26 (VNF)
<i>Carya tonkinensis</i>	Petelot 7636 (VNM); VL Thao 5924 (VFM); Thanh PL25, PL26 (VNF)
<i>Carya poilanei</i>	Poilane 26964 (P)
<i>Platycarya strobilacea</i>	Anonymous 366 (VFM); Averyanov L & NT Hiep 4916 (HN); Averyanov L et al. 794, 1633, 4918, 5618 (HN); DK Harde et.al 018508, 018509, 018510, 018511, 018512 (HNU); DE Atha et al. 4851 (HN); NT Hiep et al. 364, 659 (HN); NH Cuong & LV Ly 1458 (VNF); NN Thin 022258, 022262, 022309, 022310, 022351 (HNU); PK Loc et al. 462, 1280, 4618 (HN); PV Dung 1520 (VNF); Petelot 8218 (VNM); HV Sam 56, 57, Thanh PL57, PL58 (VNF)
<i>Pterocarya tonkinensis</i>	A Chevalier 37538 (VNM); Anonymous 3039 (HN); Averyanov L et al. 1182 (HN); Cadays 38266 (VNM); D Thuan 7, 2929 (VFM); LV Thuan 387 (VFM); NA Tiep 064 (VFM); NN Chinh 4326 (VFM); PN Dung 18 (VNM); Petelot 7632 (VNM); Poilane 33029 (VNM); VV Dung & NN Chinh 4323 (VFM); NV Ly 001, 038, 039, 040, PH 30, PH31 (VNF); HV Sam 001HB, 002, 003MC, 025, 026 (VNF); Thanh 235, 236 (VNF).
<i>Pterocarya stenoptera</i>	A Gramain 602 (HN); Anonymous 37538 (HN); Averyanov L & NQ Binh 3841 (HN); Averyanov L & NT Hiep 3931 (HN); Averyanov L et al. 11236 (HN); NN.Thin 022388, 022555, 022570 (HNU); NQ. Binh & DD Cuong 1104 (HN); NT Hiep et al. 222 (HN); Poilane 1691, 25629, 25630 (HN); Thanh PL13, PL14, PL15, PL16, PL17 (VNF).
<i>Juglans regia</i>	NV Ly 189, 190; HV Sam 235, 236 (VNF)

in Vietnam are recognition of *Alfaropsis*, the sinking of *Annamocarya* within *Carya*, and treatment of *Rhoiptelea* (Rhoipteleaceae) with Juglandaceae (Wu & Raven, 1999; Pham, 2003; Tran & Nguyen, 1993). Kozłowski et al. (2018) report ten species representing six genera, while in the most current publications the taxonomy has been neglected and the main focus is on genomic research (Guo et al., 2020).

This study aims to deliver the updated synthesis to determine the diversity, distribution, ecology, uses, and conservation status of the Juglandaceae in Vietnam.

## Materials and methods

The current nomenclature in the context of distributional data were studied. The taxonomical description was taken after Chan & Huyen (2000), Dung (1996) Hô (1992, 2003), modified and checked with the use of specimens from nature and herbaria in Vietnam: Vietnam Forestry Herbarium (VNF), Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (HN), Institute of Tropical Biology Vietnam (VNM), VNU University of Science, Hanoi (HNU), Cuc Phuong National Park Vietnam (CPNP), Forest Inventory and Planning Institute Vietnam (VFM). Specimens from the National Museum of Natural History of Paris (P) also were checked online (<https://www.mnhn.fr/en>). The summary of examined specimens is given in Table 1. To confirm herbarium specimens and assess the current situation in Vietnam, field surveys were carried out in 20 provinces in which herbarium records of Juglandaceae were found. During the field surveys, the morphological, ecological characteristics, location, and probable threats of Juglandaceae species were recorded (Nguyen, 2007). Moreover, the use of the different species and their value were determined by interviewing local people and traditional doctors. A total of 60 local people and 15 traditional doctors were interviewed in the research areas.

To evaluate the conservation status of the species we used the IUCN Red List (<http://www.iucnredlist.org>) and the Vietnam Red Data Book (Ban, 2007). The conservation status of Juglandaceae species in Vietnam was triple-checked by botany experts, management officers, and local people. Distribution maps were created using ArcMap 10.4.1. and QGIS 3.10.11.

According to the latest phylogenetic studies, there are three Juglandaceae subfamilies: (1) Engelhardioideae including *Alfaropsis*, *Engelhardia*, *Oreomunnea*, and *Alfaroa*; (2) Juglandoideae including *Carya*, *Cyclocarya*, *Platycarya*, *Pterocarya*, and *Juglans*; and (3) Rhoipteleoideae including only one species *Rhoiptelea chiliantha* (Kozłowski, Bétrisey & Song, 2018; Manos & Stone, 2001; Manos et al., 2007; APG III, 2009; APG IV, 2016).

## Results

### Engelhardioideae Iljinsk.

#### *Alfaropsis* Iljinsk.

*Alfaropsis roxburghiana* (Lindl. ex Wall.) Iljinsk., Bot. Zhurn. (Moscow & Leningrad) 78(10): 81 (1993). *Engelhardia roxburghiana* Wall., Pl. Asiat. Rar. (Wallich). 2: 85 (-86; t. 199) (1831). *Engelhardia chrysolepis* Hance., Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot. sér. 4, 15: 227 (1861). *Juglans pterococca* Roxb., Hort. Bengal. 68; Fl. Ind. iii. 631. *Engelhardia wallichiana* Lindl., Numer. List [Wallich] n. 4942. *Engelhardia polystachya* Radlk., Sitzungsber. Math.-Phys. Cl. Königl. Bayer. Akad. Wiss. München viii. (1878) 385. *Engelhardia formosana* Hayata., Icon. Pl. Formosan. 6: 61 (1916).

Tree 20–25 m tall, trunk 40–50 cm in diameter. Young twigs hairy-red or glabrous, covered with orange-skinned glands; blackish adult twigs, with spaced lenticels. Leaves pari- or imparipinnate, leathery, persistent; Rachis of 10–25 cm (including the petiole). Leaflets 2–5 pairs, subopposite, rarely lower than 5.7–2.6 cm, asymmetrical at the base (more developed acroscopic side, inserted above), acute or obtuse at the apex, margin often revolute, glabrous on the two faces except sometimes on the midrib underneath, the very young hairy-red leaves, with a glandulous lower surface; secondary veins 7–16 pairs, prominent below; petioles of 0.5–1 cm. Inflorescence terminal, often bisexual, in panicles of catkins 5–6 cm, reddish red. Male flowers dense, sessile or short pedicellate; bract and glandular bracts forming 3 teeth; sepals 4, on a short receptacle, dorsally glandular; stamens 4–8; anther glabrous. Female flowers pedicellate, bracts partly enclosed at the base of the ovary. Ovary globose, stigma 4-lobed. Infructescence 15–25 cm, with tomentose rachis, scaly, winged fruit, pedicellate; wing 3-lobed glandular, terminal lobe 2–6.5 × 0.6–1.6 cm, the lateral half shorter. Fruits a globose nut, bracts developed into wings, enclosing the base of the fruit, dark brown, with yellowish brown scales, the middle wings 2.5–4 cm long.

**Distribution** – Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, South-Eastern China, Taiwan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. This species is distributed in Bac Giang, Bac Kan, Cao Bang, Dong Nai, Gia Lai, Ha Giang, Ha Tinh, Khanh Hoa, Kon Tum, Lam Dong, Lang Son, Lao Cai, Ninh Thuan, Thai Nguyen, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Phu Tho, Quang Ninh, Vinh Phuc and Hoa Binh provinces (Fig. 1).

**Habitat and Ecology** – On shrubby hills, in secondary forests, or regenerating forests on clay-sandy, deep soil. In northern Vietnam it is found in hu-

mid forests up to 2000 m a.s.l., in the south, in humid forests or pine forests, on basalt plateaus, between 700 and 1000 m a.s.l. Natural regeneration is good under the canopy of secondary forests and mixed tree-bamboo forests. Coppice regeneration is very strong. Usually mixed with *Ixonanthes cochinchinensis* Pierre (Ixonanthaceae), *Symplocos cochinchinensis* (Lour.) S.Moore (Symplocaceae), *Lithocarpus corneus* (Lour.) Rehder (Fagaceae), *Pygeum arboretum* Endl. (Rosaceae), and *Endospermum sinensis* Benth (Euphorbiaceae).

**Flowering** – April to May.

**Fruiting** – October to November.

**Uses** – Woody pinkish grey, sapwood, and heartwood indistinct, fine-grained, density 0.30–0.66. Resistant to termites and rot. Used for construction and general furniture and carving. Leaves and bark are poisonous and can be used as a fish poison. Thanks to its thick bark, the species is used to build a green belt to prevent forest fires.

**Vernacular names** – Chẹo tía, Chẹo trắng.

**Engelhardia Lesch. ex Blume.**

*Engelhardia spicata* Lechen ex Blume var. *spicata*, Bijdr. Fl. Ned. Ind. 10: 528. *Engelhardia pterococca* (Roxb.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 637 (1891). *Engelhardia philippinensis* C.D.C., Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot. ser. 4, 18: 35 (1862).

A medium-sized tree, 10–18 (–40) m high. Bark grey, slightly fissured. Inner bark reddish-brown with fibers forming many layers, 6 mm thick. Young twigs reddish and pubescent, becoming glabrous later, with many rounded lenticels fairly close together. Leaves big, pari- or imparipinnate; rachis 15–30 cm (petioles including); leaflets (3–) 5 (–7) pairs, caducous or persistent, opposite or subopposite, ovate to elliptic, the upper leaflets 11.5–22 × 4.5–8 cm, the lower leaflets smaller, asymmetric at the base, shortly acuminate at the top, margin entire, leathery, glabrous on both

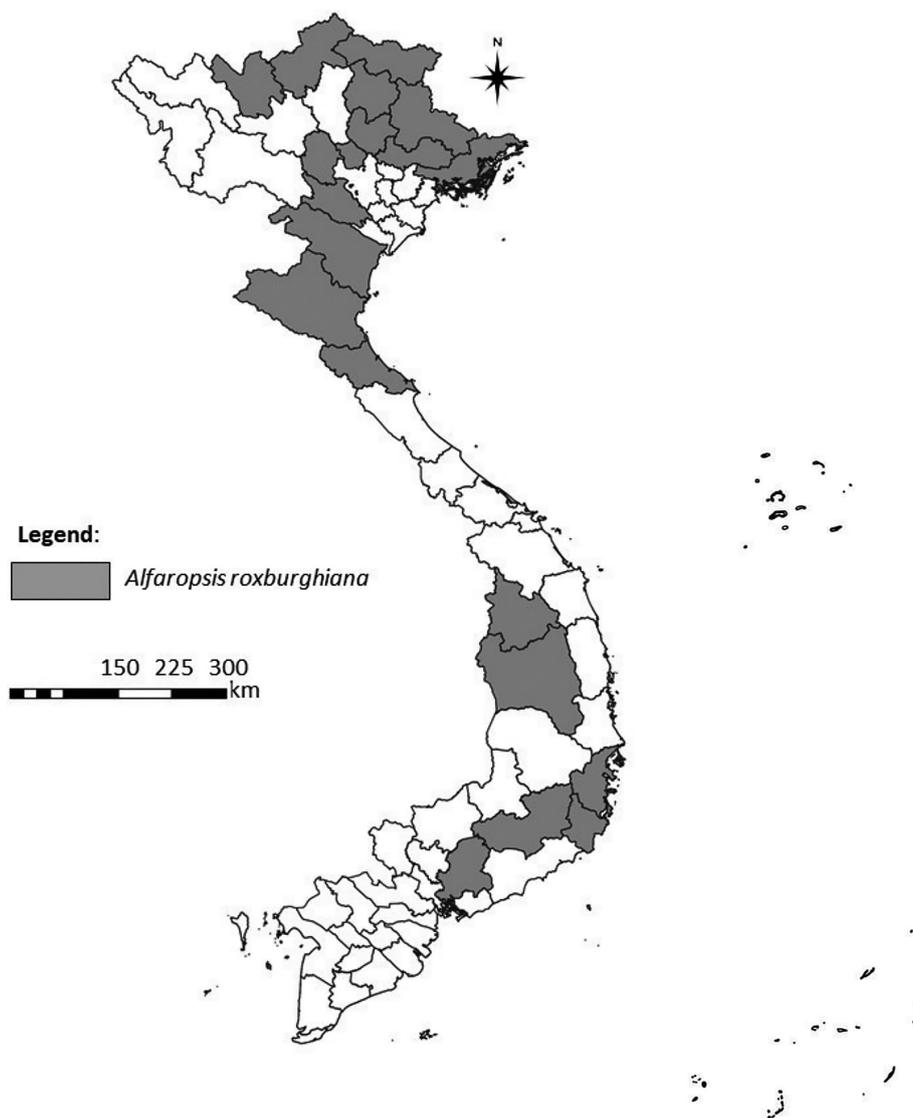


Fig. 1. Distribution map of *Alfaropsis roxburghiana* in the Vietnamese provinces

sides, with tufts of hairs at the insertion of the midrib and secondary veins below; secondary veins 13–15 pairs, clearly visible on both sides; petiolules 3–10 mm. Plant monoecious. Male inflorescence lateral, in 2–6 catkins about 11–13 cm, finely pubescent, on a common peduncle of 2–4 cm. Male flowers with one small entire bract or 3-lobed and 2 bracteoles more developed; perianth 4–5 lobed, sepals 4, narrow, on an elongated receptacle; stamens 6–13 connective pointed; anthers hairy, sessile. Female flowers spiculate, axillary, sessile; bract and bracteole glabrous; perianth with 4 sepals, tomentose, ovary connate, elongated style; stigma 2–4. Infructescence 15–30 (–40) cm, winged fruit densely grouped on the axis, sessile. Fruits ovoid, 3 × 5 mm, hispid hairy, surmounted by persistent style and stigmas; involucre developed in a wing of 2–3 mm on the ventral side and wing 3-lobed on the dorsal side, with terminal lobe, the largest, 2.4–4.5 × 0.4–1.2 cm, glabrous, hispid hairy at the base.

**Distribution** – Son La, Cao Bang, Lai Chau, Gia Lai, Kon Tum, Lam Dong, Vinh Phuc, Dien Bien, Yen Bai, Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Ha Giang, Lang Son, Quang Ninh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Thua Thien-Hue, Dong Nai and Vung Tau (Con Dao) (Fig. 2).

**Habitat and Ecology** – A light-demanding tree, found in secondary forests below 700 m a.s.l. Usually mixed with *Elaeocarpus dubius* DC. (Elaeocarpaceae), *Endospermum sinensis* Benth (Euphorbiaceae), *Pygeum arboreum* Endl. (Rosaceae), and *Canarium album* (Lour) DC. (Burseraceae) in the middle story of the forest with a forest cover of 0.5–0.6. Natural regeneration is good in the selectively-logged forests and secondary forests in Cat Tien National Park, Dong Nai province.

**Flowering** – June to July.

**Fruiting** – November to December.

**Uses** – Use for interior furniture, doors, and windows. The bark is used for fish poison. Bark resin is used to treat stomach aches and common colds.

**Vernacular names** – Chẹo lông, Chẹo bông.

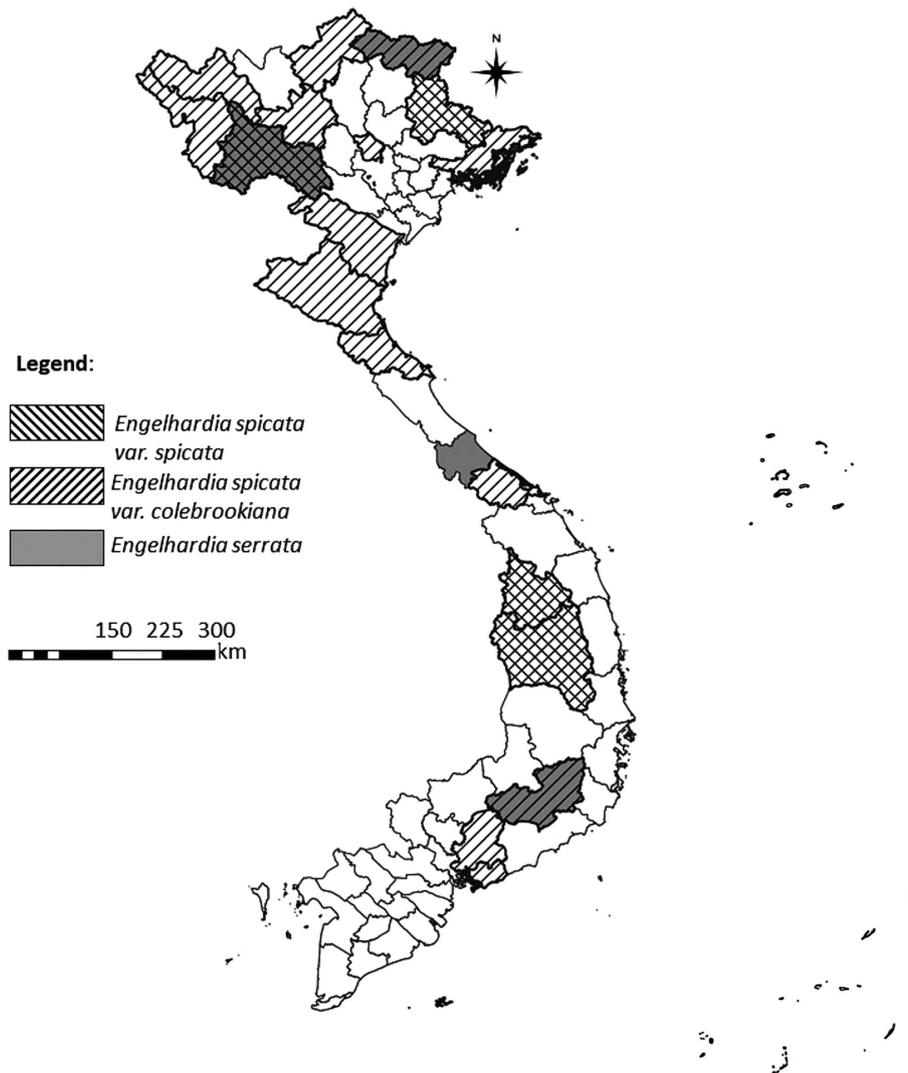


Fig. 2. Distribution map of genus *Engelhardia* in the Vietnamese provinces

*Engelhardia spicata* var. *colebrookiana* (Lindl. ex Wall.)

Koord. & Valetton, Wall. Pl. As. Rar. iii. 4. t. 208.

*Engelhardia villosa* Kurz, Forest Fl. Burmai. 491

(1877). *Engelhardia spicata* var. *integra* (Kurz)

W.E.Manning ex Steenis, Fl. Males., Ser. 1,

Spermat. 6(6): 953 (1972). *Engelhardia esquirolii*

H.Lév., Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 12: 507

(1913).

Trees 5 – 10 m high, trunk up to 30 cm in diameter.

Young twigs brown villous, becoming greyish with many rounded lenticels. Leaves often paripinnate, rachis 15 – 22 cm (petioles including), covered in red hair. Leaflets (2-) 5 (5-) pairs, ovate, upper leaflets 7–13 × 3.3–5.7 cm, lower leaflets smaller, asymmetric at the base, obtuse, rounded or retuse at the apex, margin entire, leathery; upper face glabrous, lower face tomentose, with scales glandular ± abundant, rarely glabrous; secondary veins 8–10 pairs, ± prominent below; petiole 5 mm, reddish villous. Male inflorescence in catkins panicles, 4.5–8 cm, at the axil of fallen leaves; male flowers with bracts, bracteoles, and sepals villous; stamens 6–10; anthers densely hairy. Female inflorescence in axillary spikes, sometimes androgynous spikes, with short pedicels, bracts, and bracteoles developed into narrow lobes; style villous; stigmas 2–4. Infrutescence up to 25 cm, with rachis shaggy. Fruits with short pedicels, with style and stigmas persistent. Nuts globose, 4 mm in diameter, hispid and villous; bracteoles forming a tri-lobed wing on the dorsal side, with median, the largest, 2.0–3.0 × 0.9–1.25 cm glabrous, villous hispid with stinging hairs at the base.

**Distribution** – Son La, Lang Son, Gia Lai, Kon Tum provinces (Fig. 2). We found three individuals in Xuan Nha Natural Reserve, Son La province, four individuals in Kon Ka Kinh national park, Gia Lai province.

**Habitat & Ecology** – *Engelhardia spicata* var. *colebrookiana* Lindl. found in humid dense broad leaves forests and broad leaves mixed with pine forests in Xuan Nha Natural Reserve, Son La province at 1200 – 1600 m. In Kon Ka Kinh national park, Gia Lai province, this species occurs in dry forests mixed with *Dipterocarpus* species at 1000–1200 m.

**Flowering** – February to March.

**Fruiting** – February to July.

**Vernacular names** – Chèo cánh ngắn

*Engelhardia serrata* Blume,

Fl. Javae Jugl., t. 2, 5 (1829). *Engelhardia palembanica* Miq., Fl. Ned. Ind., Eerste Bijv. 3: 346 (1861).

Tree 5–20 m high, trunk up to 50 cm in diameter.

Young twigs with dense brownish pubescent dotted with glandular scales, becoming glabrous and covering with prominent lenticels. Leaves pari- or

imparipinnate; rachis 10–18 cm (petiole 2.7–7 cm including), brown and hairy. Leaflets (3–) 5 (–7) pairs, opposite or subopposite, sessile or nearly sessile, ovate, or ovate-oblong to lanceolate, sickle-shaped. Upper leaves 5.5–16.5 × 2.5 cm. Lower leaves progressively smaller, with crenate margin in the upper half, teeth spaced, curved in the lower part, asymmetrical at the base (slightly more developed acroscopic side); upper surface glabrous with dense hairs on midrib and lateral veins, lower surface hairy reddish, dotted with yellowish glandular scales; secondary veins 11–16 pairs, recessed above, prominent below. Male inflorescences axillary, 2–3 catkins of 2–4 cm. Male flowers subsessile; perianth elongated, with 3 loops; stamens 6, anthers hairy. Female inflorescences in solitary, hanging spikes. Female flowers subsessile, pubescent, stigma 2. Infrutescence up to 20 cm; fruits subsessile. Nuts covered with long stinging hairs; bract expanded, dorsal, 3-lobed, membranous, with a larger median lobe, 2.7–3.5 × 0.7–1 cm, dotted with glandular hairs and stinging hairs at base; bracteole forming two teeth on the ventral side.

**Distribution** – Son La, Cao Bang, Quang Tri, and Lam Dong provinces (Fig. 2).

**Habitat and Ecology** – Occurs in humid dense forests, at low altitudes and up to 1600 m, or in undisturbed mixed dipterocarp and sub-montane forests. On ridges and alluvial sites, usually on poor sandy soils. In secondary forests usually present as a pre-disturbance remnant tree.

**Flowering** – January to February.

**Fruiting** – March to May.

**Uses** – Bark and leaves are rich in tannin and are used as fish intoxicants. The yellowish-white to greyish-red wood is light, soft, and close-grained and is used for the construction of houses. Timber is used for veneer and plywood, turnery, moulding, tool handle, domestic flooring, and general utility furniture. Heartwood is decorative, used for small ornamental items.

**Vernacular names** – Chèo

## Juglandoideae Eaton

### *Carya* Nuttall

*Carya sinensis* Dode, Bull. Soc. Dendrol. France 1912, 59. *Juglans indochinensis* A.Chev., Rev. Bot. Appl. Agric. Trop. xxi. 502.(1941). *Annamocarya indochinensis* (A.Chev.) A.Chev., Rev. Bot. Appl. Agric. Trop. xxi. 504 (1941). *Rhamphocarya integrifoliolata* Kuang, Iconogr. Fl. Sin. 1(1): 1, t. 1 (1941).

Trees up to 30 m high, deciduous, 50–100 cm in diameter, bole 10–18 m in height with trunk and buttresses at the base. Bark grayish and glabrous, with prominent lenticels 1.5–2 mm; inner bark

2–2.3 cm thick, white-yellow; broad foliar scars. Twigs horizontal, very gross, scatteredly tomentose. Leaves imparipinnate compound, alternate 30–40 cm long; Rachis 13–30 cm (including petiole), glabrous; petioles 5–7 cm long, cylindrical, swollen at the base. Leaflets generally 7, ovate-lanceolate to elliptic, 12–14 cm long and 5–7 cm wide, slightly swollen at the base, nearly rounded or asymmetrical, acuminate at apex, margin entire or wavy, glabrous on the two sides with tufts of hair at the insertion of the midrib vein below; secondary veins 15–18 pairs; petiole 3–7 (–10) mm. Male inflorescences axillary in fascicles of 5 (–8) catkins at the base of young shoots; isolated, short stalk or sessile; sepals absent; stamens 5–15. Female inflorescences terminal. Female flowers glandular: perianth formed of 4–6 teeth (bracts and bracteoles fused to the ovary); stigmas 2. Nuts ovoid, 6–8 × 5 cm, apiculate-rostrated at the apex; thick exocarp 5–9 mm, dehiscent by 4–6 valves opening from the top,

keeled. Globular to ovoid starch, 3–5 mm long, long rostrum, cavernous in upper part; a cavity in the upper part, 2 in the lower part with incomplete secondary partitions; 3-lobed cotyledons.

**Distribution** – Bac Kan, Quang Ninh, Lai Chau, Son La, Vinh Phuc, Ninh Binh, and Thanh Hoa provinces (Fig. 3). A total of 33 individuals have been recorded in Cuc Phuong National park, 29 in Ben En National park, and 4 in Xuan Nha natural reserve.

**Habitat and Ecology** – The species is often found along streams, in valleys (often as a canopy-emergent tree), or at the foot of mountains at 100–600 m. Fruits and seeds are dispersed by water flow (hydrochory). It occurs in plant associations with *Sterbulus macrophyllum* Blume (Moraceae), *Sacarda dives* Pierre (Fabaceae), *Hydnocarpus kurzii* (King) Warb. (Achariaceae), *Caryodaphnopsis tonkinensis* (Lecomte) Airy Shaw (Lauraceae), *Pometia pinnata* J.R.Forst. & G.Forst. (Sapindaceae), *Dracontomelum dao* (Blanco) Merr. & Rolfe (Anacardiaceae).

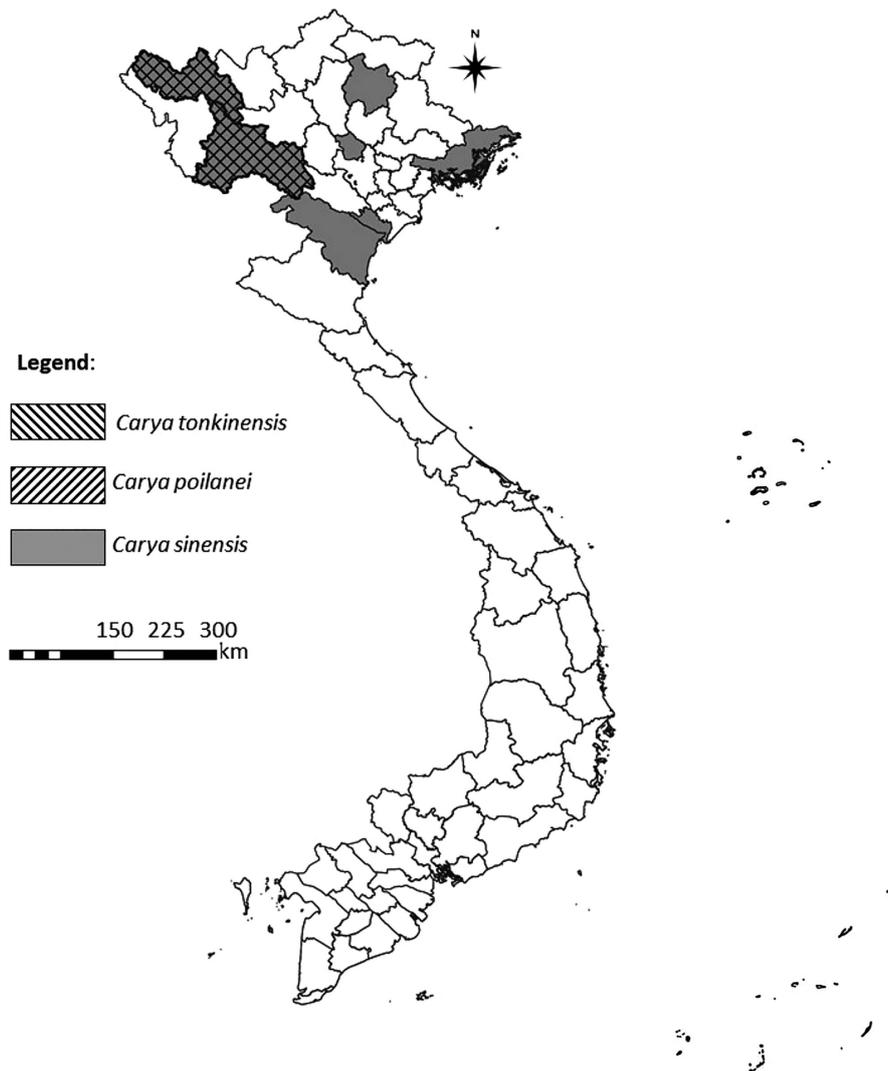


Fig. 3. Distribution map of genus *Carya* in the Vietnamese provinces

ae), or *Elaeocarpus dubius* DC. (Tiliaceae). In Cuc Phuong National Park, this species is found in groups of 3–4 individuals in valleys or sometimes on limestone mountains at an elevation between 100–400 m. The discovery of seedlings suggests that *C. sinensis* reproduces in secondary forests in Cuc Phuong National Park (8 seedlings found) and Ben En national park (29 seedlings found).

**Flowering** – April to July

**Fruiting** – July to September.

**Uses** – It provides good quality wood, used in construction and furniture production. The fruit contains starch used for human food and cattle. The fruit husk is particularly suitable for the production of activated charcoal. Seeds can be pressed for oil and are often planted around lakes in parks as ornamental trees.

**Vernacular names** – Chò đăi

*Carya tonkinensis* Lecomte, Bull. Écon. Indochine 1921, xxiii. 2; et in Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Parit, 1921, xxvii. 438.

Deciduous tree, medium-sized tree. Trees 10–15 m high, 50–60 cm in diameter. Trunk straight, terete. Bark grey-brown or dark gray, flaky. Terminal buds naked and brown. Young twigs covered with glandular red-orange scales, becoming dark brown, with scattered lenticels. Leaves alternate or subopposite; rachis densely covered with glandular scales, along with 7–10 cm petioles. Leaflets 5–7 pairs, opposite, ovate oval or lanceolate-elliptic, the upper leaves are bigger, of 6–15 × 2,7–5,2 cm, slightly asymmetrical and sickle-shaped, rounded at the base, apex acuminate or tapering into a sharp point, toothed, with red-orange glandular scales on both sides, denser on below; secondary veins 20–25 pairs, almost parallel, with tufts of hair at the insertions with the median; petiolule 1 mm, hairy, or none. Midrib tomentose, petiolules very short. Flowers unisexual. Male inflorescences in catkin spike, 10–13 cm, naked at the bottom on 1–1.5 cm, usually having 3 pendulous spikes on terminal leaflets branches; isolated, short pedicellate 5mm long, perianth with 2–3 in regular lobes; 3-parted involucre: small bract, oblong, viscous bracteoles; stamens 4–7, short filaments, hairy anthers, 1 mm long. Female inflorescences spike at the terminal. Female flowers, perianth forms cup-shaped with 4 irregular dents (bract and bracteole welded to the ovary); ovary inferior, unilocular; almost no style; stigmas 2, median, fleshy, fluffy. Fruits drupe, ovoid, 3 × 2,5 cm slightly depressed at the base and the top, epicarp dehiscent by 3–4 fleshy valves, uneven, scaly at the apex. Endocarp 1 mm thick, depressed at the top; ovary 3 locules, one at the top, 2 at the bottom part with incomplete partitions making

the cotyledons 3-lobes. Pericarp thick, upper part 1-celled, lower part 4-celled, endosperm with copious oil.

**Distribution** – This species is distributed in small areas in northern provinces, especially along Da river banks and in Lai Chau and Son La provinces (Fig. 3). During our study, a total of 12 individuals were recorded (7 in Xuan Nha natural reserve and 5 in Thuan Chau natural reserve, Son La province).

**Habitat and Ecology** – *Carya tonkinensis* is a light-demanding tree, moist, deep soils and grows between 600 – 1200 m. It also grows in secondary or regenerated forests in former shifting cultivation areas. It is a fast-growing tree and its natural regeneration is good.

**Flowering** – March to May.

**Fruiting** – July to August.

**Uses** – Used for construction and furniture. The edible seeds are tasty and can be used for the production of high-quality and sweet oil. Fruit skins are used for activated charcoal production.

**Vernacular names** – Mây châu, Hồ đảo núi, Hồ đảo bắc bộ.

*Carya poilanei* (A.Chev.) J.-F.Leroy, Rev. Int. Bot. Appl. Agric. Trop. xxx. 428 (1950). *Juglans poilanei* A.Chev., Rev. Bot. Appl. Agric. Trop. xxi. 496 (1941).

Trees 12–15m height, trunk 40–50 cm in diameter. Twigs blackish, with sparse lenticels, with persistent foliar scars, broad; foliar buds glandular, reddish and pubescent. Leaves alternate, persistent; Rachis 12–20 cm (petiole including), glabrous; Leaflets 5, ovate, upper 25–35 × 10–13 cm, lateral smaller, obtuse to cuneate at base, slightly asymmetrical (acrosopic side more developed), obtuse-acuminate at the apex, margin serrulate, glabrous on both sides, but with tufts of hair at the insertion of the secondary veins with the median below; secondary veins (12–17) pairs almost parallel, prominent on both sides; tertiary nervation well visible below, petiolule 3–6 mm. Fruits globose to ovoid, not depressed. Endocarp 2.2–2.4 × 2.1–2.2 cm, smooth outer, slightly hilly, 4 mm thick, not pointed; cotyledons 3-lobed.

**Distribution**–Lai Chau and Son La provinces (Fig. 3).

**Habitat and Ecology** – *Carya poilanei* (A.Chev.) J.-F. Leroy found in the high altitude of rainforests and on limestone mixed soils forest at 1500 m a.s.l.

**Flowering** – April to June

**Fruiting** – August to December.

**Uses** – The nutmeat is not edible. Timber can be used for making furniture.

**Vernacular names** – Mây châu poilanei

**Platycarya Siebold & Zucc.**

*Platycarya strobilacea* Siebold & Zucc., Abh. Math.-Phys. Cl. Königl. Bayer. Akad. Wiss. 3(3): 743, t. 5 (1843). *Fortunaea chinensis* Lindl., J. Hort. Soc. Londoni. (1846) 150. *Platycarya longipes* Wu, Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 71(2): 171 (1940).

A deciduous, medium-sized tree, up to 15–20 m in height and 40 cm in diameter but often found as smaller sized trees. Bark ash-grey, irregularly longitudinally fissured. Young branches terete, brown initially densely pubescent, later glabrescent. Old branches brown, glabrous with elliptic lenticels. Winter buds ovoid, axillary, brown. Buds scales numerous, triangular, 5–7 mm long, margin ciliate. Crown globose and thin. Leaves odd-pinnate, alternate, 15–35 cm long (sometimes 45 cm) petiole terete, slightly pubescent, dilated at the base with 7–23 leaflets. Leaflets opposite or subopposite, subsessile, 4–12 cm by 2–4 cm, lanceolate-ovate or lanceolate elliptic, attenuate toward tip, base subrounded, oblique,

margin clearly serrate, dark green and glabrous above, greenish beneath, and pubescent at axils of veins. Penninerved, lateral veins 10–12 pairs or more.

Flowers unisexual, minute, naked, arranged into catkin-spikes. Male catkins 6–10 cm long, many flowered, erect, terminal (rarely axillary), stalk 2 cm long, brown pubescent, stamens often 8, the length of filament unequal; anthers yellow, globose, 2-celled. Female catkins about 2 cm long, subglobose or ovoid, stalk 6 mm long with brown tomentum, often occurs above the male catkins. Bracts broadly ovate, acute; ovary flat, style short; stigma bifid, pubescent. Infructescence subglobose, brown, 3–4 cm long, 2–3 cm wide. Fruits borne in cone-like structures bearing small two-winged nutlets, about 5 mm long and yellow-brown.

**Distribution** – Bac Kan, Cao Bang, Ha Giang, Hoa Binh, Lao Cai, Thanh Hoa, Tuyen Quang, Son La, Lang Son, Ninh Binh, and Phu Tho provinces

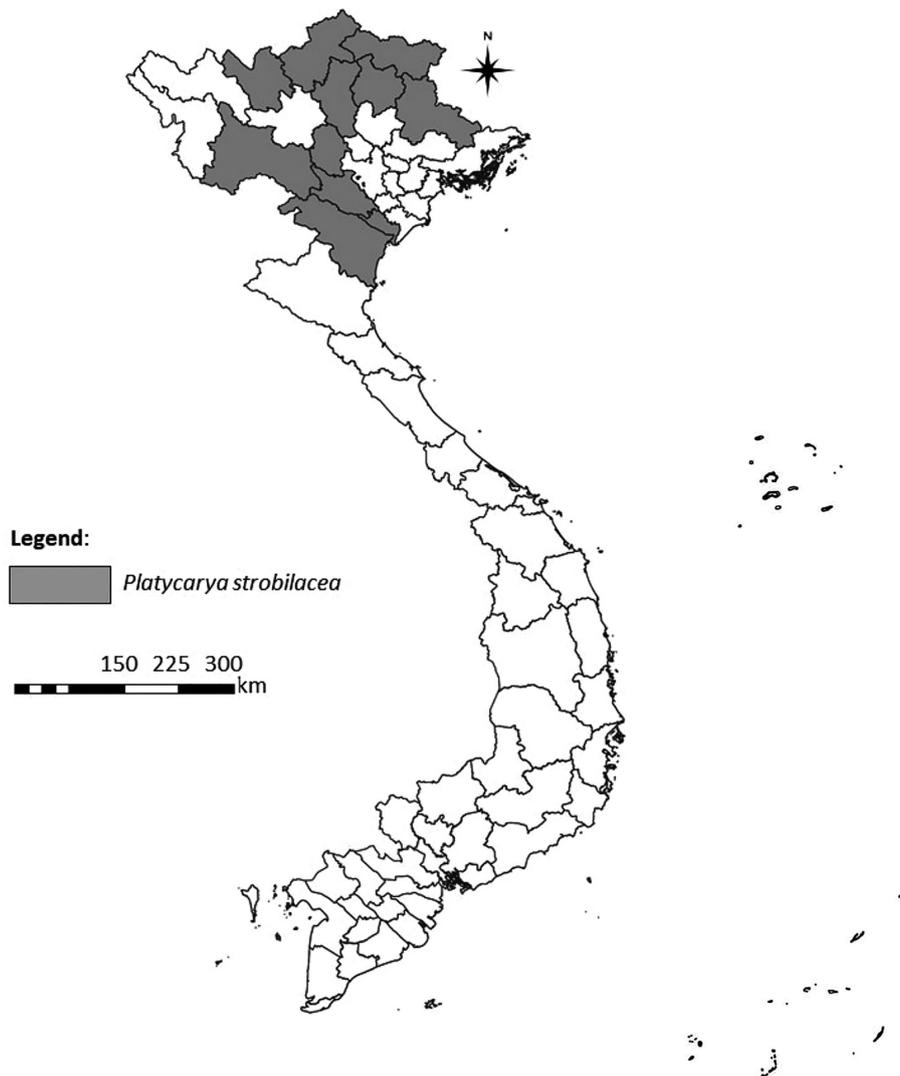


Fig. 4. Distribution map of *Platycarya strobilacea* in the Vietnamese provinces

(Fig. 4). A total of 19 mature trees and 16 seedlings were recorded during our field survey in Xuan Nha natural reserve and Cuc Phuong National park.

**Habitat and Ecology** – Usually found between 400–1200 m a.s.l., growing mainly on limestone soil, with medium humus content and a neutral to slightly neutral pH. Often mixed with *Illicium verum*, *Schefflera octophylla*, *Acer decandrum*, Fagaceae, and Lauraceae species, forming a forest type characteristic of mountain vegetation on limestone geology. In Cuc Phuong national park, *Platycarya strobilacea* was only found growing as scattered individuals 400 m on the peak of a limestone mountain called Cloudy Silver Peak. In Xuan Nha Natural reserve, Son La province, this species is found on limestone soil from 400 – 700 m.

**Flowering** – April to May.

**Fruiting** – August to September.

**Uses** – wood used for furniture production; the leaves can be used as insecticides and as a skin

remedy. The bark and roots are rich in tannins. Fruits and bark are used to dye fabrics. Fruits and leaves can treat some common diseases, such as tendons, bones, and abdominal pain, rash, and eczema.

**Vernacular names** – Hóá hương, Hương núi.

#### **Pterocarya Kunth**

*Pterocarya tonkinensis* (Franch.) Dode, Bull. Soc. Dendrol. France 67 (1929). *Pterocarya stenoptera* var. *tonkinensis* Franch., J. Bot. (Morot) 12 (21): 318 (1898).

Deciduous tree, medium-sized tree, up to 20–25 m high, sometimes > 30 m, 50–60 cm in diameter. Trunk straight, terete. Bark grey-brown or dark gray, flaky. Twigs brown or yellowish-brown with yellow scattered hairs. Leaves odd-pinnate compound, alternate. Petioles with yellow scaled hairs, glabrescent. Leaflet 5–7, opposite, ovate oval or lanceolate-elliptic; apex acuminate or tapering into a sharp point, margin serrulate;

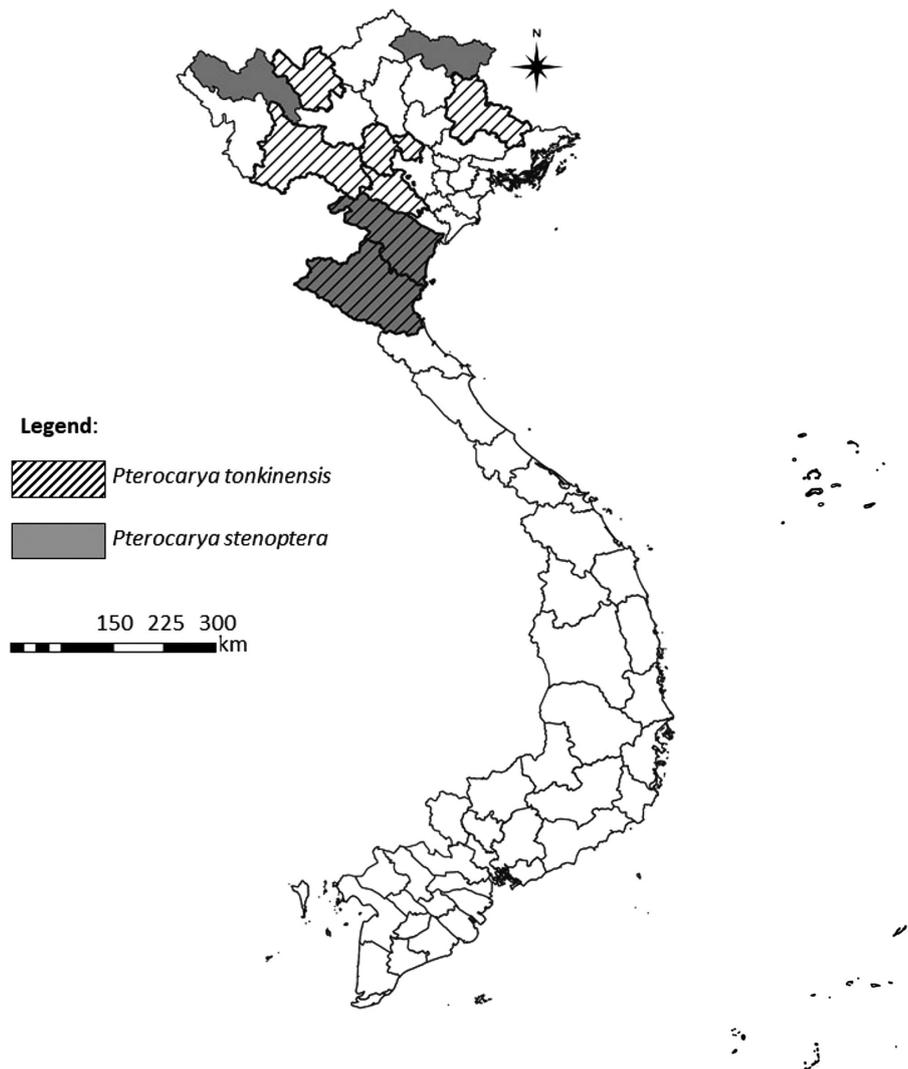


Fig. 5. Distribution map of genus *Pterocarya* in the Vietnamese provinces

terminal leaflets are big, lanceolate, gradually attenuate toward both ends, base cuneate; two basal leaflets are small and asymmetric; midrib tomentose, petiolules very short. Flowers unisexual. Male inflorescence is a catkinspike, usually having 3 pendulous spikes on terminal leaflets branches; male flowers with pedicels 5 mm long, perianth with 2–3 in regular lobes. Stamens 5–6, in 2 whorls, filaments short. Female inflorescence short, few-flowered. Female flowers perianth cup-shaped with 4 irregular dents, tomentose outside, ovary inferior without style, stigmata 2. Fruits a bi-winged nutlet, 2.8 cm in diameter with 4 grooves later dehiscing into 4 valves. Pericarp thick, upper part 1-celled, lower part 4-celled, endosperm with copious oil.

**Distribution** – Nghe An, Hoa Binh, Vinh Phuc, Son La, but also present in Lang Son, Lao Cai, Phu Tho, and Thanh Hoa provinces (Fig. 5).

**Habitat and Ecology** – Found of moist, sandy soil usually growing on riverbanks and streambanks on alluvium, between 500–1000 m. Commonly growing in pure stands or mixed with *Elaeocarpus thorelli* Pierre (Elaeocarpaceae) and *Cleisocalyx consperpunctatus* L. (Myrtaceae). Natural and coppice regeneration is strong. Entirely deciduous tree: November – December.

**Leafing and flowering** – March to April.

**Fruiting** – April to May.

**Uses** – Use for spars and general utensils. The bark can treat toothache, common scabies, trichomonas. The bark and leaves are rich in tannin. Leaves and seeds are used as fish-poison, insecticide, and skin-cured diseases such as scabies.

**Vernacular names** – Coi, Coi bắc bộ.

*Pterocarya stenoptera* C.DC., Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot. sér. 4, 18: 34 (1862). *Pterocarya stenoptera* var. *zhijiangensis* Z.E.Chao & C.J.Zheng, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 20(1): 119 (1982). *Pterocarya chinensis* Hort. ex Lavall., Arbor. Segrez. 65. *Pterocarya esquirolii* H.Lév., Cat. Pl. Yun-Nan 135, in adnot. (1916). *Pterocarya laevigata* Hort. ex Lavall., Arbor. Segrez. 65. *Pterocarya japonica* Hort. ex Dippel, Handb. Laubholz. ii. (1892) 329, fig. 19; Koehne, Deutsche Dendrol. (1893) 74.

Trees up to 20–25 m. Bark smooth when young, deep slits when aged. Twigs glabrous and blackish. Buds terminal and naked. Leaves compound, even pinnate, rarely odd-pinnate; Rachis of 15–25 cm (petioles including), narrowly winged on leaves of young shoots, or sometimes only ridged or sulcate on leaves. Leaflets 4–8 pairs, opposite, ovate, superiors 8–9,5 × 3–3,5 cm; inferiors are smaller, slightly asymmetrical at the base (the side opposite the base more rounded), obtuse, sometimes acute or acuminate at the apex, membranous,

with dentate margin, sessile, glabrous on both sides or little hairy on the veins below, secondary veins 15 pairs approx. Male inflorescence in dense catkins, of 6–8 cm. Female inflorescence of 6–18cm, with looser flowers. Male flowers, bracts, and bracteoles arranged in spatula 3-lobed, with a dorsal surface covered with glandular scales, stamens 8–10, with very short or no filament; anther binocular and glabrous. Female flowers, bracts smaller than bracteoles, all covered dorsally with glandular scales, sepals 4, glabrous; adhered to the ovary by the base. Fruits slender, spike, and very long of 25–30 cm. Nuts long ellipsoid of 6–7 mm, with linear 2 wings of 15–17 × 3–4 mm, at the variable angle of divergence.

**Distribution** – Nghe An, Thanh Hoa, Lai Chau, and Cao Bang provinces (Fig. 5).

**Habitat and Ecology** – Prefers warm, temperate, and subtropical zones with deep, moist, well-drained soil, but does well in dry, exposed sites and heavy clay. Trees can be found in the forests, often near the edge of streams, from 100–400 m.

**Uses** – The bark can treat toothache, common scabies, trichomonas.

**Vernacular names** – Coi, Ngón.

### Juglans L.

2.4.1 *Juglans regia* L., Sp. Pl. 2: 997 (1753). *Juglans duclouxiana* Dode, Bull. Soc. Dendrol. France 1909, 1906, 81. *Juglans regia* subsp. *sinensis* (C.DC.) Ohle, in R. Mansfeld, Verz. Landwirtsch. u. Gartn. Kulturpfl., Auf. 2, ed. J. Schultze-Motel 1: 38 (1986). *Juglans sinensis* (C. DC.) Dode, Bull. Soc. Dendrol. France 1906, 92.

A large tree 10–15 (–30) m high and 80 cm in diameter. Trunk straight, cylindrical, crown large. Bark ash-grey or dark-grey, not fissured when young, longitudinal fissures on old stems. Twigs knotty, gray, and glabrous. Buds covered with scales. Leaves alternate, imparipinnate, caducous. Rachis 15–20 cm (petiole including), glabrous. Leaflets 5–11, opposite to subopposite, the upper leaflets bigger, 6,5–15 × 3–7 cm, glabrous on both sides, but with strong tufts of hair at axils of the secondary veins with the median below; margin entire, nearly sessile; apex acute. Plants unisexual, monoecious. Male inflorescence in catkin-spike of 7–10 cm. Male flowers stalked; perianth forming 5–6 lobes dorsally hairy; stamens 14–25; anther glabrous. Female inflorescence in upright spikes with 1–4 flowers. Female flowers hairy and glandular scaly; ovary inferior and tomentose; stigma 2, divergent, green. Infrutescence carrying 1–3 drupes, globular to ovoid, 4–6 cm of diameter. Epicarp with irregular dehiscence; endocarp ± carved, dehiscent to germination by 2 valves; a locule at the top, 2–4 locules at the bottom by the

development of the secondaries; cotyledons cerebellar, 4-lobes, with oil reserves.

**Distribution** – Introduced to Cao Bang, Lai Chau, Lao Cai, Dien Bien, and Ha Giang provinces in Northern Vietnam (Fig. 6).

**Habitat and Ecology** – Cold temperate species, often found growing in valleys, at the foot of mountains, or on former shifting cultivation land between 600 – 1500 m. Natural regeneration is rather good on open land.

**Flowering** – April to May.

**Fruiting** – September to November.

**Uses** – The bark and roots can treat dysentery, chronic enteritis, diarrhea, and rectal prolapse. Its wood is used to make gun-stocks, ammunition, carving stock, and furniture. Trunk bark and fruits contain tannin. Leaves have antiseptic properties. Seeds can be eaten or pressed for oil. The seeds are used as a medicine for asthma, cough, enhance strength, as a diuretic, for skin problems, or eaten as food. Leaves can be used as antiseptic

tics. In some countries, leaves are used to treat herpes, eczema and leucorrhoea.

**Vernacular names** – Óc chó, Hồ Đào.

## Rhoipteleoideae Reveal.

### Rhoiptelea Diels & Hand.-Mazz

3.1.1 *Rhoiptelea chiliantha* Diels & Hand.-Mazz, Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 30: 77 (1932).

Medium trees up to 20 m, deciduous, 30–40 cm diameter of the trunk. Bark gray. Young branches, stipules, rachises, petioles, and inflorescences densely covered with yellowish-white glands and pubescent. Branchlets densely covered with brownish yellow lenticels. Stipules leaflike, 3–6 mm, sessile. Petiole 3–4 cm. Rachis sulcate and pubescent. Leaves odd-pinnate, 15–30 cm long, including 7–19 leaflets, leaf blade 15–30(–40) cm; abaxially pubescent and glandular on veins or vein axils, adaxially pubescent on midvein; lateral leaflets oblong-lanceolate, proximal ones shorter,

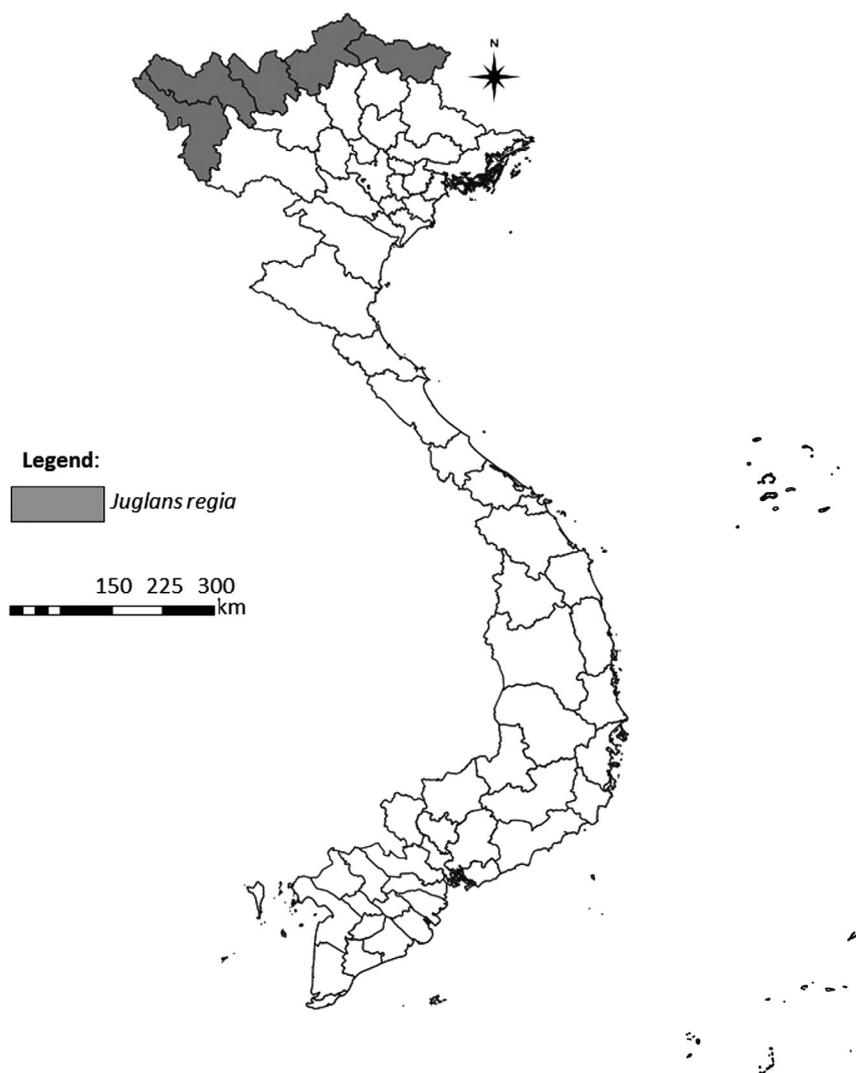


Fig. 6. Distribution map of *Juglans regia* in the Vietnamese provinces

oblique, elliptic-ovate; terminal leaflet lanceolate; secondary veins (9–)14–20 on each side of the midvein. Inflorescence branches 15–30(–38) cm, in catkin, axillary in distal leaves, many spikes in fascicles. The large panicles of compound catkins nodding from the shoot apex look like a horse-tail. Flowers small and inconspicuous; tepals 4, brown; pistil 1, no staminode; styles 2, branched; anthers 6, short, and filantherous; stigmas 2, white when receptive; ovary 2-loculed, only one developed. Nutlets brownish yellow when mature, obpyriform, slightly compressed, 2–3 mm, with grayish-brown glands, 4-ribbed on each side; wings rounded to ellipsoid, 5–8 mm wide; mesocarp brown, woody, irregularly verrucose; endocarp white. Seeds fleshy, elliptic, ca. 2 mm.

**Distribution** – China in the provinces of Guangxi and Yunnan and in Vietnam (Kozłowski et al. 2018). Previously it has been described as endemic to China. However, we found this species in a small area in Lai Chau (Ta Phin, 11 trees), Lao Cai

(Hoang Lien National Park, Sapa, 28 trees), Cao Bang (Phia Den Natural Reserve, 12 trees), and Yen Bai provinces (Fig. 7). Natural regeneration of this species is not good in these areas, only 18 seedlings were found in the study sites.

**Habitat and Ecology** – grows in mixed mesophytic forests and evergreen broad-leaved forests on hill slopes, in valleys, and on riversides, between 700 and 2500 m a.s.l.

**Flowering** – October to January.

**Fruiting** – July to August.

**Uses** – Wood is light gray, light, soft, used for ordinary woodwork. The husk and fruits contain a lot of tannins and are used for dyeing purposes.

**Vernacular names** – Đuôi chó, Đuôi ngựa

**Taxonomic diversity and distribution** – The Juglandaceae of Vietnam comprises 10 native and one introduced species (*Juglans regia*) that is widely cultivated. The members of the Walnut family are largely distributed throughout Vietnam. However, the highest concentration of species is found

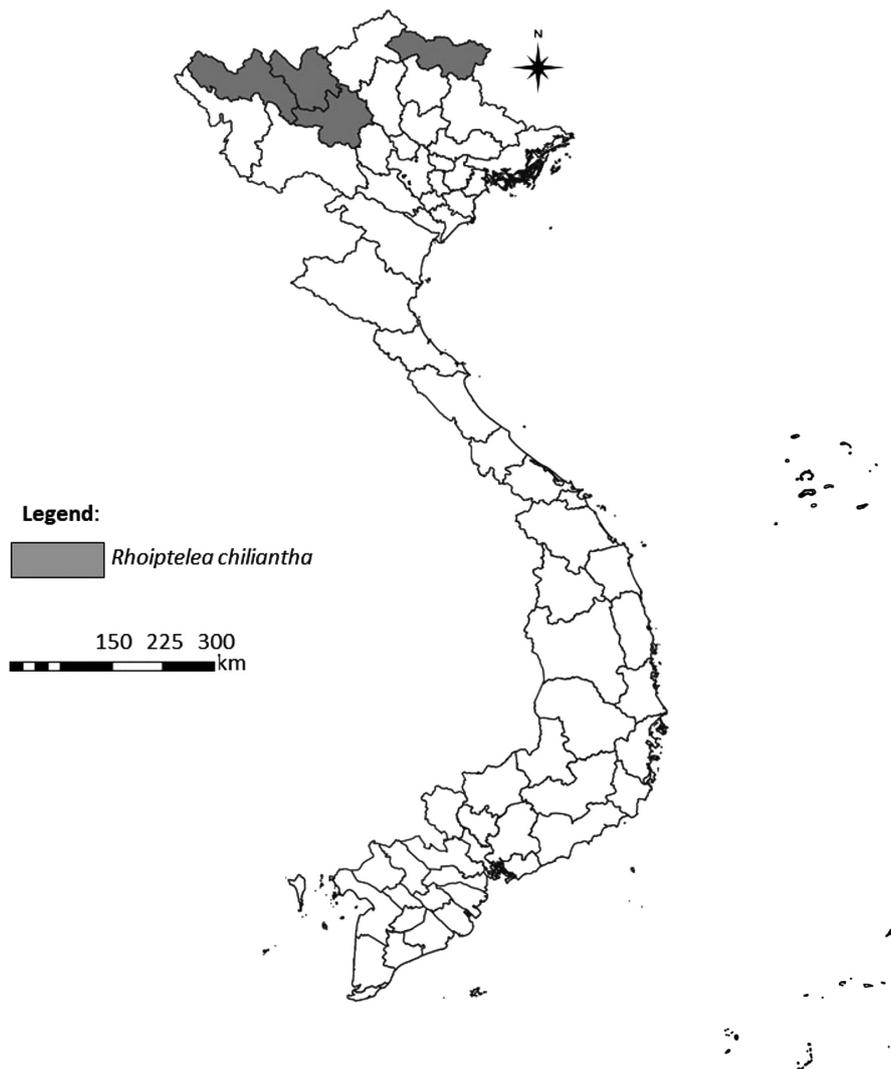


Fig. 7. Distribution map of *Rhoiptelea chiliantha* in the Vietnamese provinces

in the rain-laden mountains of Northern Vietnam (Son La, Lai Chau, and Lao Cai provinces) (Fig. 8). In the central and the southern parts of Vietnam, the mountainous provinces of Kon Tum, Gia Lai, and Lam Dong also host numerous species. *Alfaropsis roxburghiana* is the most widespread species in Vietnam, with a presence noted in 20 provinces (Fig. 1), while *Carya poilanei* and *C. tonkinensis* are the rarest, as they are present in only 2 provinces (Fig. 3). *Carya poilanei*, known originally only in Vietnam thanks to a herbarium specimen collected in 1937, was discovered recently in the Son La

province. Most Vietnamese Juglandaceae taxa are found between 600 and 1200 m, although some are found at sea level (*Engelhardia* spp.) or up to 2500 m (*Rhoiptelea chiliantha*), with a rather broad amplitude (Fig. 9).

**Uses** – All species of Juglandaceae found in Vietnam are useful plants (Table 2). Most of them are used for woodwork and furniture, but mostly at a local or regional level (e.g. *Rhoiptelea*, *Engelhardia*, *Juglans*, *Carya*). Although seed kernels of many Juglandaceae species are eaten used to extract oil worldwide, only a few species are used for this

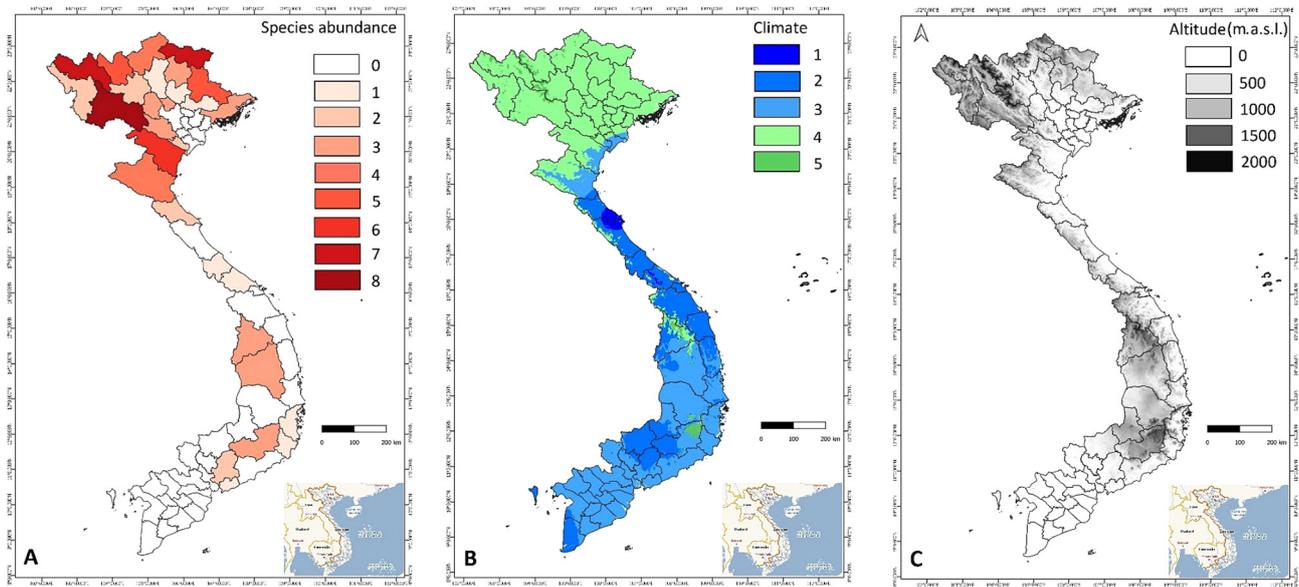


Fig. 8. (A) Species abundance of Juglandaceae in Vietnam (0–8 species per province), (B) climatic map: 1. tropical, rainforest, 2. tropical, monsoon, 3. tropical, savannah, 4. temperate, dry winter, hot summer, 5. temperate, dry winter, warm summer and comparison with (C) relief

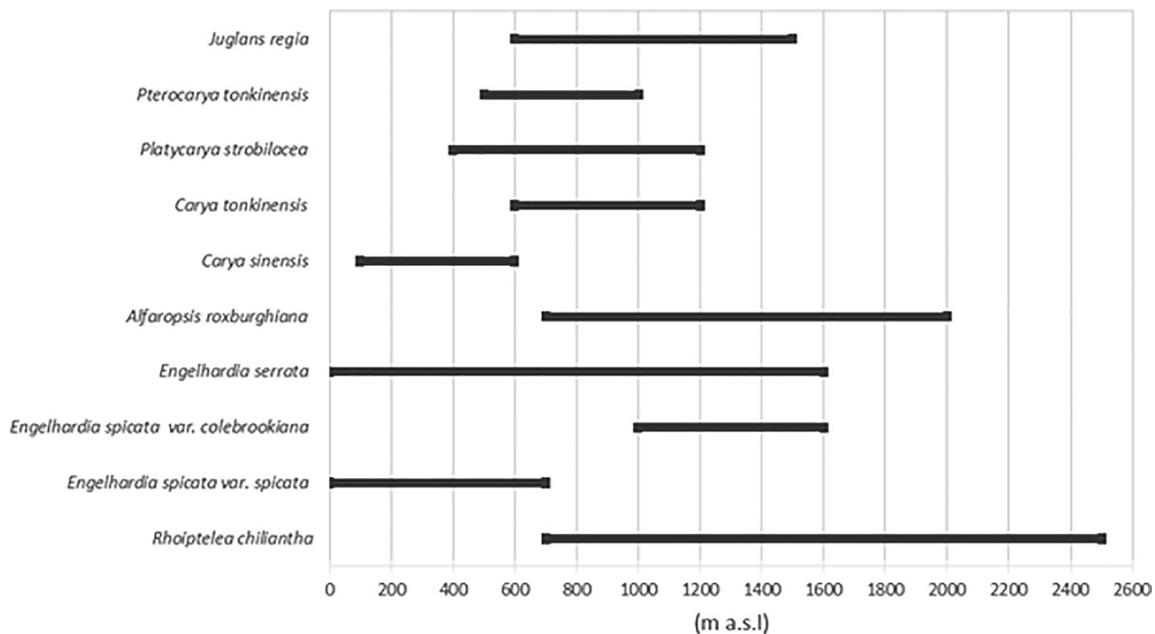


Fig. 9. Altitudinal distribution of Juglandaceae in Vietnam (no data for *Carya poilanei* and *Pterocarya stenoptera*)

Table 2. Uses of Juglandaceae in Vietnam

Taxon	Forestry	Woodwork	Food / fruits	Oil	Tanning / staining	Poisoning	Ornamental trees	Traditional medicine
<i>Rhoiptelea chiliantha</i>		×			×			
<i>Engelhardia spicata</i> var. <i>spicata</i>		×				×		×
<i>Engelhardia spicata</i> var. <i>colebrookiana</i>								
<i>Engelhardia serrata</i>	×	×				×		
<i>Alfaropsis roxburghiana</i>	×	×				×		
<i>Carya sinensis</i>		×	×	×				×
<i>Carya tonkinensis</i>		×	×	×				
<i>Carya poilanei</i>	×							
<i>Platycarya strobilacea</i>		×				×		×
<i>Pterocarya tonkinensis</i>		×				×		×
<i>Pterocarya stenoptera</i>	×						×	×
<i>Juglans regia</i>		×	×	×				×

purpose in Vietnam (e.g. *Carya sinensis*, *C. tonkinensis*, *Juglans regia*). The most common application is to use crushed leaves and bark, which contain a wide range of chemicals to stun fish, for fishing (Kozłowski, Bétrisey & Song 2018). This mainly concerns *Engelhardia* spp., *Alfaropsis roxburghiana*, *Pterocarya tonkinensis*, and *Platycarya strobilacea*. The pharmacological properties of Juglandaceae have long been recognized and widely used in traditional medicine at a local level. For example, the bark resin of *Engelhardia spicata* is commonly used to treat stomachache, while fruits and leaves of *Pterocarya strobilacea* are effective against some common diseases, such as painful tendons, eczema, and rash. *Juglans regia* is probably the most interesting species from a therapeutic perspective and is used to treat dysentery and diarrhea. Its fruits are used to treat asthma, cough or are used for skin care.

**Threats and conservation status** – Three species occurring in Vietnam are classified as globally threatened according to the IUCN Red List (*Rhoiptelea chiliantha*, *Carya sinensis*, and *Pterocarya tonkinensis*), while four are classified as least concerned (*Engelhardia spicata*, *E. serrata*, *Alfaropsis roxburghiana*, *Pterocarya stenoptera*). Additionally, one species (*Carya tonkinensis*) is threatened locally and listed as vulnerable (VU) according to the Vietnam Red Data Book. Two more taxa merit to be included in the Vietnam Red Data Book (*Engelhardia spicata* var. *colebrookiana* and *Platycarya strobilacea*). The most frequent threats are linked to human activities and include land-use change and habitat destruction (e.g., logging, artificial wood plantations, road constructions, etc.). During our field studies based on the herbarium specimen of *Carya poilanei* collected by Poilane on 31 December 1937, we did not find any individual of this species in Lai Chau province. Two specimens have been found in Son La province recently. Further fieldwork and studies are needed to assess the threat situation of this species.

## Discussion

Vietnam, with its complex topography and diversity of climatic conditions, hosts many endangered plants. With 12,300 known vascular plants, including around 1,500 tree species, Vietnam is one of the most biodiverse countries on Earth. The country is also one of the Walnut family diversity centers worldwide. With 11 known species representing seven genera and all three subfamilies, it takes the prominent second place just after China (Kozłowski et al. 2018; Song et al. 2020a).

The rainy mountains of Northern Vietnam, areas with their best-preserved forest cover, are the most diverse areas for Juglandaceae (Pham, 2003; Song et al., 2020a). Notably, *Rhoiptelea chiliantha*, *Platycarya strobilacea*, *Carya tonkinensis*, *C. sinensis*, and *C. poilanei* are almost exclusively found in this northern part of Vietnam. In contrast, *Alfaropsis roxburghiana* and the two Vietnamese *Engelhardia* species (*E. serrata* and *E. spicata*, the last with two varieties) can be found from the North to the South, at higher elevations. The two *Pterocarya* species are known from the country, *P. stenoptera* and *P. tonkinensis*, growing in lowland riparian forests, mainly in the northern part of the country (Kozłowski, Bétrisey & Song 2018). Besides our present study, new and intensive fieldwork is needed to improve the knowledge of the Vietnamese species as well as distribution data on Juglandaceae of Southeastern Asia. This is especially the case in taxonomically complex *Engelhardia* (Zang et al., 2020) but also in *Pterocarya* Song et al., 2020b; Zhang et al., 2020).

The Juglandaceae family has an inestimable economic and conservation value (Kozłowski, Bétrisey & Song 2018; Song et al., 2020a). All Vietnamese Juglandaceae species are important useful plants. Since all members of Juglandaceae are trees, nearly all species are used by local communities for timber production and woodwork. *Carya tonkinensis*, *C. sinensis*, and introduced *Juglans regia* are widely used

for fruit production and oil extraction. Many species are used in traditional medicine (e.g. *Pterocarya* spp., *Platycarya strobilacea*, or *Carya sinensis*), as well as for fish poisoning (e.g. *Pterocarya*, *Alfaropsis*, and *Engelhardia* spp.) (Pham, 2003; Tran & Nguyen, 1993).

Vietnam possesses an enormous international responsibility for Juglandaceae conservation. This is especially the case for globally threatened and phylogenetically isolated *Rhoiptelea chiliantha* and *Carya sinensis*. Both species are classified as endangered (EN) in the IUCN Red List. Two further Juglandaceae need more conservation efforts: *Pterocarya tonkinensis*, which is globally vulnerable (VU), and *Carya tonkinensis*, which is locally vulnerable (VU) (Ban, 2007). Additionally, our present study revealed that the remaining populations of *Platycarya strobilacea* and *Engelhardia spicata* var. *colebrookiana* are threatened as well in Vietnam. To summarize, half of the Vietnamese Juglandaceae are globally and/or locally threatened and would need a coordinated protection plan and enhanced conservation efforts.

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## Conflict of interest

The authors have no conflict of interest to declare.

## Author contributions

Conceptualization: H.V.S., D.Q.T, and A.K.J.; Data curation: H.V.S, D.Q.T, D.T.B.N, A.K.J; Formal analysis: (equal); Investigation: H.V.S., D.Q.T, A.K.J.; Methodology: (equal); Supervision: H.V.S, A.K.J, G.K.; Writing – original draft: H.V.S, D.Q.T, D.T.B.N, P.T.T, D.T.T, S.B., F.R., Y.G.S.; Writing – review & editing: H.V.S, D.Q.T, A.K.J, G.K. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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