**Declaração de importância**

This is a pioneering study on the genetic variability in metapopulations of plant species that occurs in the Cadeia do Espinhaço in Minas Gerais. It brings with it information for the construction of a germoplasm bank with the proposal to outline a management plan. Since *Lippia rotundifolia* is endemic and produces essential oils, whose chemical composition of their oils it is of great industrial interest, and because of its specific aromaticity and phytophysiognomy, the plant is extremely flammable, which makes it a priority for conservation. In this way avoiding extinction of the species.