Dear Editor,

This study investigated the leaf symmetry associated with other leaf traits, such as leaf angle, leaf shape and petiole and internode length, and its relation to light capture in forests with marked light heterogeneity. We studied six tree species of a remnant of Araucaria Forest (*Cupania vernalis, Casearia sylvestris, Piper gaudichaudianum, Cedrela fissilis, Piper gaudichaudianum* and *Roupala brasiliensis*), in Paraná state. The symmetry index did not clearly distinguish leaves in different groups (asymmetric/symmetric). However, the results indicated an adjustment among structural characteristics that allowed a three-dimensional arrangement of leaves. The combination of these attributes represents an architectural organization that allows an advantageous space arrangement for light capture and seems to be a response to selective pressure by the heterogeneous light conditions of the ombrophilous forest understory.

Studies about leaf symmetry are very scarce and this feature as a functional trait is still poorly understood, as are its relationships with other functional traits.

Sincerely,

Daiane Maria Pilatti