

## PHENOLOGY AND PHENOLOGICAL VARIABILITY OF MEXICAN ECOSYSTEMS

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Mexico is among the countries with highest biodiversity. The great number of ecosystems ranges from sub-tropical desert lands in the North to tropical shrublands and forests in the South. In addition to the unique location and the influence of two Oceans, the orography with ranges in the East and West and a high plateau in the central section leads to temperate ecosystems at higher elevations. Even arctic vegetation can be found in small areas at the highest peaks. In contrast, the flat and karstic Yucatan Peninsula exposes tropical forests and shrublands. Besides the physiogeographic influences several cultures have significantly shaped the environment.

This study employs time series of MODIS vegetation index data to visualize and analyze the phenology of ecoregions in Mexico. Time series are generated with the TiSeG software package taking advantage of the MODIS quality information provided with each data set. Multiple annual time series are compared and interpreted with respect to driving factors such as temperature and precipitation.