

**Table S1. Characteristics and references of GFB datasets.**

#	Dataset	Country	Tier	Sample size	Inventory year range (mean)	Dataset references	Allometric equations
1	FIA	USA	1	405,513	1968–2014 (1992)	O’Connell et al. (2014)(79)	Woodall et al. (2011)(80)
1	FIA	USA	2	167,197	1968–2014 (1992)	O’Connell et al. (2014)(79)	Woodall et al. (2011)(80)
2	FIA	US-Pacific Islands	1	399	2001–2013 (2005)	O’Connell et al. (2014)(79)	Woodall et al. (2011)(80)
3	CAFI	US-Alaska	1	708	1994–2015 (2003)	Malone and Liang (2009)(81)	Yarie et al. (2007)(82)
4	Ngovayang	Cameroon, Central Africa	1	34	2001–2014 (2009)	Baldauf et al. (2013)(83) Gonmadje (2012)(84)	BHF(85)
5	Bissombo	Cameroon	1	6	2006–2009 (2008)	Lewis et al. (2013)(86)	BHF(85)
6	NFI	Canada	2	840	1992–2007 (2003)	Gillis et al. (2005)(87)	Gillis et al. (2005)(87)
7	Provincials	Canada	1	6,802	1958–2013 (1985)	Chen and Luo (2015) (88)	Lambert et al. (2005) (89)
8	PEP-Québec	Canada	1	17,163	1970–2012 (1990)	Paquette and Messier (2011) (7)	Lambert et al.(2005)(89)
9	Queensland	Australia	1	2,570	1936–2011 (1978)	Beetson (1992)(90)	Ngugi et al. 2014(91)
10	NVS	New Zealand	1	4,026	1969–2015 (1992)	Wiser et al. (2001)(92)	BHF(85)
11	IFFSC	Brazil	1	56	2007–2015 (2012)	Vibrans et al. (2010)(93)	Vibrans et al. (2015)(94)
11	IFFSC	Brazil	2	384	2007–2011 (2009)	Vibrans et al. (2010)(93)	Vibrans et al. (2015)(94)
12	Bahia	Brazil	2	48	1993–2009 (2008)	Piotto et al. (2009)(95)	BHF(85)
13	FunDivEURO PE	Finland Germany Italy Poland Romania Spain	2	209	2007–2012 (2009)	Jucker et al. (2014)(96)	BHF(85)
14	Hyytiala	Finland	1	14	2008–2015 (2012)	Rautiainen et al. (2012)(97)	Heiskanen et al. (2015)(98)
15	Paracou	French Guiana	1	1,016	1985–2016 (2002)	Gourlet-Fleury et al. (2004) (47)	BHF(85)
16	Allipa	Chile	1	330	1981–2014 (2005)	Salas et al. (2006)(99)	Salas (2002)(100)
17	NFI	Japan	1	11,407	1999–2008 (2003)	JFA (2013)(101)	JFA (1970)(102, 103)
18	Trentino	Italy	2	150	2002–2014 (2004)	Rodeghiero et al. (2010)(104)	Tabacchi et al. (2011)(105)
18	Trentino	Italy	2	783	2002–2014 (2004)	Tonolli et al. (2011)(106)	Di Cosmo et al. (2013)(107)
19	FVG	Italy	2	350	2003–2007 (2005)	Gasparini and Tabacchi (2001)(108)	Anfodillo et al. (2006)(109)
20	Biodiversity Exploratory	Germany	1	79	2009–2015 (2012)	Fischer et al. (2010)(110)	BHF(85)
21	CTFC	Syria	1	122	1988–2008 (1998)	de Miguel et al. (2010)(111)	BHF(85)
22	CTFC	Lebanon	1	100	1988–2008 (1998)	de Miguel et al. (2010)(111)	BHF(85)
23	NFI	Netherlands	1	1,121	2001–2013 (2008)	Schelhaas et al. (2014)(112)	Schelhaas et al. (2014)(112)
24	NFI	Spain	1	30,641	1986–2011 (1997)	ICONA (1996)(113) DGCN (2008)(114)	DGCN (2008)(114)

25	NFI	Portugal	2	6,351	1995–2005 (2000)	DNGF (2010)(115) ICNF (2013)(116)	DNGF (2010)(115) ICNF (2013)(116)
26	AMJ	Poland	2	160	2009–2015 (2013)	Unpublished	BHF(85)
27	Sudety	Poland	1	488	2012–2014 (2013)	Unpublished	BHF(85)
28	Siberia	Russia	2	66	1965–2000 (1984)	Usoltsev (2001)(117)	BHF(85)
29	West Sayan	Russia	2	411	1972	Parfenova and Tchebakova (2009)(118)	BHF(85)
30	NFI	China	2	278	1998–2011 (2001)	Lei et al. (2009)(119)	SFA (2014)(120)
31	FMPI	China	1	1,378	1997–2007 (2002)	He et al. (2013)(121)	JFA (2009)(122)
32	M'Baiki	Central African Republic	1	12	2009–2011 (2010)	Gourlet-Fleury et al. (2013)(123)	BHF(85)
33	Ipassa	Gabon	1	1	2009–2010 (2010)	Obiang et al. 2010(124)	BHF(85)
34	NFI	France	1	56,621	2005–2014 (2010)	IGN (2015)(125)	IGN (2015)(125)
35	NFI	France	1	10,856	2008–2012 (2010)	IGN (2015)(125)	IGN (2015)(125)
36	NFI	Germany	1	45,132	2002–2012 (2007)	BMELV (2011)(126)	Dahm (2006)(127) BMELV (2008)(128)
37	T3	Indonesia Panama Uganda Brazil Peru Suriname Cameroon Laos Republic of Congo Malaysia Madagascar Tanzania Costa Rica Panama Ecuador	1	406	2002–2015 (2011)	Team Network (2010)(129)	Team Network (2010)(129)
38	Naforma	Tanzania	1	19	2011–2015 (2013)	Vesa et al. (2010)(130)	BHF(85)
39		Uganda	1	58	1999–2014 (2005)	Unpublished	BHF(85)
40	Transbaikalia	Russia	2	208	1980	Parfenova and Tchebakova (2009)(118)	BHF(85)
41	NSW	Australia	1	2,092	1977–2009 (1997)	Muhairwe (2006)(131)	BHF(85)
42	Patagonia	Argentina	1	112	2008–2013 (2011)	Peri and Ormaechea (2013)(132)	Peri and Ormaechea (2013)(132)
43	NFI	Republic of Korea	1	260	1998–2012 (2005)	Lee et al. (working paper)	Son et al. (2012)(133)
44	CSP	China	1	25	2008–2010 (2009)	Barrufol et al. (2013)(134)	Barrufol et al. (2013)(134)

45	Russia	Russia	1	124	1965-2000 (1984)	Usoltsev (2001)(117)	BHF(85)
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