

Gazetteer

This RAP survey was conducted in the Atewa Range Forest Reserve and Range Extension located in southeastern Ghana. Atewa is a 23,663 hectare forest reserve that contains four plateaus. The RAP survey took place from June 6 – 24, 2006 at the beginning of the rainy season.

Site 1: Atiwiredu (Southern Plateau)

6°12'22.7"N; 0°34'39.2"W

817 m a.s.l.

Numerous trail lines had been cut at this site, some for mineral exploration. Despite this disturbance, the moist upland forest was in good condition and contained a mixture of primary and secondary growth forest. Species composition varied with the undulating topography of the plateau and the valleys. Some invasive species were present (e.g., *Chromolaena odorata*).

Site 2: Asiakwa South

6°15'44.3"N; 0°33'18.8"W

783 m a.s.l.

This site was located in moist upland forest with some degree of human disturbance. Trails cut here have introduced an edge effect. The forest habitat of this site is of very high quality from a biodiversity perspective and contains considerable primary growth mixed in with some secondary forest. Some swampland is also found within site boundaries. Some invasive species were present (e.g., *Chromolaena odorata*).

Site 3: Asiakwa North

6°16'16.1"N; 0°33'52.7"W

814 m a.s.l.

This site was situated atop the Asiakwa plateau at the northern edge. The site was the most intact of the three surveyed with the largest proportion of undisturbed upland humid forest, a number of old growth emergents and very little understory except for in light gaps. The terrain was interesting as the site was located on a narrow end of the Asiakwa plateau and surrounded by deep valleys and ravines so the elevation ranged from 300 to around 800 m a.s.l. Although the forest was in excellent condition, it was evidently impacted heavily by surrounding villages. Snares and cartridges were found throughout this site, as was evidence of illegal logging in the area.