Appendix 2. Inter- and extrapolation analysis (**iNEXT**) of epiphyte diversity occurring in the forest types: semi-deciduous forest (**SDF**, 300-400 m a.s.l.), tropical montane cloud forest (**TMCF**, 800-1600 m a.s.l.), submontane scrub (**SMS**, 700-1500 m a.s.l.), and the pine-oak forest (**POF**, 1500-2000 m a.s.l. Table 1). The interpolated (observed) species richness of vascular epiphytes was obtained by merging the observed abundance and species richness of individual plots per forest type. Extrapolated (expected) species richness for each forest type was based on the highest maximum number of individuals (ca 7 500). The first column indicates the forest type and the row number, **m** indicates the sample size (abundance, number of individuals), **method** indicates whether species richness was *interpolated*, **observed** (total species richness) or *extrapolated* (based on maximum abundance), **order** indicates the value of q (see diversity profile, Fig. S1), **qD**, **qD.LCL** and **qD.UCL** indicate estimated species richness and corresponding lower and upper limits, **SC**, **SC.LCL** and **SC.UCL** indicate sample coverage estimate (range: 0-1) and corresponding lower and upper limits. We show an overview of the full results (**Fig. 2**), between ca. 2000 and 5000 individuals (or until there were no changes in the values).

SDF	**m**	**method**	**order**	**qD**	**qD.LCL**	**qD.UCL**	**SC**	**SC.LCL**	**SC.UCL**
14	2109	*interpolated*	0	14.361	12.632	16.09	0.999	0.998	1
15	2271	*interpolated*	0	14.503	12.699	16.307	0.999	0.998	1
16	2433	*interpolated*	0	14.637	12.76	16.514	0.999	0.999	1
17	2595	*interpolated*	0	14.764	12.816	16.713	0.999	0.999	1
18	2757	*interpolated*	0	14.885	12.866	16.904	0.999	0.999	1
19	2920	*interpolated*	0	14.999	12.909	17.089	0.999	0.999	1
20	2921	**observed**	0	15	12.91	17.09	0.999	0.999	1
21	2922	*extrapolated*	0	15.001	12.91	17.091	0.999	0.999	1
22	3162	*extrapolated*	0	15.158	12.946	17.371	0.999	0.999	1
23	3403	*extrapolated*	0	15.304	12.973	17.636	0.999	0.999	1
24	3644	*extrapolated*	0	15.438	12.991	17.886	0.999	0.999	1
25	3885	*extrapolated*	0	15.562	13.004	18.121	1	0.999	1
26	4126	*extrapolated*	0	15.676	13.01	18.341	1	0.999	1
27	4367	*extrapolated*	0	15.781	13.013	18.549	1	0.999	1
28	4608	*extrapolated*	0	15.877	13.011	18.743	1	0.999	1
29	4849	*extrapolated*	0	15.966	13.007	18.925	1	0.999	1
30	5090	*extrapolated*	0	16.048	13	19.096	1	0.999	1
TMFC	**m**	**method**	**order**	**qD**	**qD.LCL**	**qD.UCL**	**SC**	**SC.LCL**	**SC.UCL**
12	2062	*interpolated*	0	15.669	14.751	16.588	0.999	0.999	1

13	2250	*interpolated*	0	15.763	14.84	16.687	1	0.999	1
14	2437	*interpolated*	0	15.839	14.911	16.767	1	0.999	1
15	2625	*interpolated*	0	15.899	14.965	16.832	1	0.999	1
16	2812	*interpolated*	0	15.943	15.002	16.885	1	0.999	1
17	3000	*interpolated*	0	15.975	15.023	16.927	1	0.999	1
18	3187	*interpolated*	0	15.994	15.028	16.959	1	1	1
19	3375	*interpolated*	0	16	15.017	16.983	1	1	1
20	3376	**observed**	0	16	15.017	16.983	1	1	1
21	3377	*extrapolated*	0	16	15.017	16.983	1	1	1
22	3594	*extrapolated*	0	16	14.991	17.009	1	1	1
23	3811	*extrapolated*	0	16	14.962	17.038	1	1	1
24	4028	*extrapolated*	0	16	14.931	17.069	1	1	1
25	4245	*extrapolated*	0	16	14.901	17.099	1	1	1
26	4462	*extrapolated*	0	16	14.871	17.129	1	1	1
27	4679	*extrapolated*	0	16	14.842	17.158	1	1	1
28	4896	*extrapolated*	0	16	14.814	17.186	1	1	1

SMS	**m**	**method**	**order**	**qD**	**qD.LCL**	**qD.UCL**	**SC**	**SC.LCL**	**SC.UCL**
10	201	*interpolated*	0	7.872	6.923	8.821	0.993	0.99	0.997
11	223	*interpolated*	0	8.018	7.025	9.011	0.994	0.99	0.997
12	246	*interpolated*	0	8.162	7.126	9.199	0.994	0.99	0.997
13	268	*interpolated*	0	8.293	7.216	9.369	0.994	0.991	0.998
14	290	*interpolated*	0	8.418	7.302	9.533	0.994	0.991	0.998
15	312	*interpolated*	0	8.537	7.383	9.692	0.995	0.991	0.998
16	335	*interpolated*	0	8.658	7.463	9.853	0.995	0.991	0.998
17	357	*interpolated*	0	8.77	7.535	10.005	0.995	0.991	0.998
18	379	*interpolated*	0	8.881	7.605	10.156	0.995	0.991	0.999
19	402	*interpolated*	0	8.995	7.675	10.315	0.995	0.991	0.999
20	403	**observed**	0	9	7.678	10.322	0.995	0.991	0.999
21	404	*extrapolated*	0	9.005	7.681	10.329	0.995	0.991	0.999
22	777	*extrapolated*	0	9.842	7.969	11.715	0.999	0.998	1
23	1150	*extrapolated*	0	9.973	7.896	12.051	1	0.999	1
24	1524	*extrapolated*	0	9.994	7.832	12.155	1	1	1
25	1897	*extrapolated*	0	9.997	7.798	12.195	1	1	1
26	2271	*extrapolated*	0	9.997	7.782	12.213	1	1	1
27	2644	*extrapolated*	0	9.998	7.774	12.221	1	1	1
28	3018	*extrapolated*	0	9.998	7.77	12.225	1	1	1
29	3391	*extrapolated*	0	9.998	7.768	12.227	1	1	1
30	3765	*extrapolated*	0	9.998	7.767	12.228	1	1	1
31	4138	*extrapolated*	0	9.998	7.767	12.228	1	1	1
32	4512	*extrapolated*	0	9.998	7.766	12.229	1	1	1
33	4885	*extrapolated*	0	9.998	7.766	12.229	1	1	1

POF	**m**	**method**	**order**	**qD**	**qD.LCL**	**qD.UCL**	**SC**	**SC.LCL**	**SC.UCL**
8	2101	*interpolated*	0	8.105	7.283	8.927	0.999	0.999	1
9	2401	*interpolated*	0	8.284	7.438	9.13	0.999	0.999	1

10	2701	*interpolated*	0	8.436	7.572	9.301	1	0.999	1
11	3001	*interpolated*	0	8.566	7.687	9.444	1	0.999	1
12	3301	*interpolated*	0	8.674	7.786	9.563	1	0.999	1
13	3601	*interpolated*	0	8.765	7.868	9.663	1	1	1
14	3901	*interpolated*	0	8.84	7.935	9.744	1	1	1
15	4201	*interpolated*	0	8.899	7.987	9.81	1	1	1
16	4501	*interpolated*	0	8.944	8.025	9.862	1	1	1
17	4801	*interpolated*	0	8.975	8.048	9.902	1	1	1
18	5101	*interpolated*	0	8.994	8.057	9.93	1	1	1
19	5402	*interpolated*	0	9	8.051	9.949	1	1	1
20	5403	**observed**	0	9	8.051	9.949	1	1	1
21	5404	*extrapolated*	0	9	8.051	9.949	1	1	1