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Ecosystem diversity and economic valuation of Qinghai-Tibet Plateau (CBA:534998)

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Abstract

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There is a high biodiversity of ecosystem types in Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, which provide not only a various of ecological function but also many ecological services. This paper estimated the monetary value of ecosystem diversity and their. The results show that economic output is some 170×10^8 yuan(RMB). Compared with this figure the carbon dioxide fixation and oxygen release for atmosphere regulation are about 15.39×10^8 t a⁻¹ and 11.18×10^8 t a⁻¹ respectively and their economic value exceed 10015×10^8 yuan (RMB). The ecosystems especially alpine grassland system plays an important role for water holding. Annual water holding reached to 2600×10^8 m³ and its economic value was equal to 1750×10^8 yuan (RMB). Air purification services of forest was about 255×10^8 yuan (RMB). The ratio of product economic value to ecological services value is 1:70. The data proves that the economic value of ecological services is much higher than directuse value and therefore, the protection of ecosystem diversity will be the base for maintaining life-supporting system of tibetan Plateau.

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