**Fraxinus Continent**

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**History**

The continent of Fraxinus was so named after the main mining facility first erected on the planet of Merach, which is now the main hub of the entire planet. Merach was a world largely ignored by the galaxy until a lone research vessel happened along and decided to do a quick survey of the planet. The small team found large concentrations of ditanium, as well as another mineral that they were unfamiliar with. They decided to sell this information, which was eventually bought by an agent of the Dark Council.

The unfamiliar mineral were actually Adegan crystals, a crucial component in making a lightsaber as they were the very heart of that weapon. Although a prized possession, the Dark Council did not wish to attempt to harvest these resources on such a harsh planet, and instead awarded possession of the planet to Taldryan after a rite of combat.

Taldryan, through a shell-corporation, hired consultants from Mensix Mining Company to help develop the necessary facilities on Merach. Mensix ran the facilities on the dangerous world of Musafar, so the knowledge they had gleaned from that world could be transferred to another hostile location. The consultants helped design all of the main facilities on Merach, which include Fraxinus (main administrative building), Frax-Alpha and Frax-Beta (the two ditanium-mining facilities) and the Keth facility (built to mine the Adegan crystals).

A deadly accident at the Keth facility killed the consultants as well as the original miners, but that was the last time an accident of that scale occurred. The Fax-facilities are running at peak efficiency, while the Keth facility is fully operational, but is still not running at full capacity due to continued difficulties with its namesake.

**Geography & Climate**

Much like the rest of Merach, the area currently known as Fraxinus is an inhospitable wasteland with a highly corrosive atmosphere due to the high oxygen/ozone as well as the sulfuric acid content. The entire region also has an elevated gravity in comparison to the Taldryan homeworld of Karufr, as well as temperatures that exceed the norms of other humanoid beings.

Due to the tectonically-active nature of Merach, Fraxinus does not have stable borders like that of other worlds. While its outer-edgers are always in flux, the core of the continent can be split into three gradients. A line of volcanoes envelope the northern-part of the continent. While most of these volcanoes have become dormant, making Fraxinus perhaps the most stable of all continents on Merach, there are still a handful of volcanoes that continue to be active. Located close to the most active of these volcanoes, Keth, is the largest concentration of Adegan Crystals.

South of the volcanoes is a large plateau-like area bombarded by a constant flow of magma. The ditanium-veins run rampant through this location. Continuing south-east the plateau drops off into the low-lands of the continent. This lower-valley the least hospitable area on the entire continent with pressures and temperatures at their very worst, as well as lakes of sulfur scattered throughout. As there is a lack of any deposits in this area there has been no need to investigate it further or set-up any permanent facilities.

**Flora & Fauna**

Due to the inhospitable nature of the planet, there is very little in the way of any flora or fauna. There have been reports of small, plant-like protrusions dotting the entrance of the Keth-mines.

**Points of Interest/Cities**

**Fraxinus -** The first facility built on Merach, it has become the “capital” of the world and the continent itself was named after it. Fraxinus is continually expanding as operations grow, with various off-shoot structures containing living spaces for the works as well as entertainment and dining. The very core of Fraxinus is where the main administration offices are located. The main landing platform on the planet is located on the eastern-side of Fraxinus

**Frax Alpha & Beta -** The two ditanium facilities are located to the west of Fraxinus and are spaced at opposite ends of the main ditanium veins. Simple quarters have been set-up for the workers as they may not alway be able to travel back to Fraxinus during the more turbulent weather.

**Keth Facility -** The Adegan mining facility is the most technologically advanced structure on the planet, built to withstand the constant eruptions from Keth itself. Due to the unique construction of the facility there have been numerous breakdowns and issues preventing the miners from fully concentrating on their primary job. A steady stream of Adegan crystals have begun to flow in, but it is a constant struggle.