Regional workshop on integrated management of cocoa pathogens in Africa: controlling indigenous pests and diseases and preventing the introduction of exogenous ones «MAJOR PESTS SITUATION AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT IN CAMEROON»

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INTRODUCTION

Since when cultivated in Cameroon
State of the orchard
Major cocoa pests and diseases
INTRODUCTION


- Introduced in Cameroon by Germans in 1887 (Assoumou, 1977)

- In the period of the first world war (1914-1918), cocoa was cultivated in Cameroon in two main zones: the area of mount Cameroon was the most important one (South West), Kribi was the second.
STATE OF THE ORCHARD

- 6 main producing regions in Cameroon
  1. South-West
  2. Centre
  3. Littoral
  4. South
  5. East
  6. West

* Adamaoua, but still a very small producing zone
SPATIAL COVER: Total cocoa area: 400,000 hectares nowadays, but expanding very seriously (not far from 170,000 ha estimated at the end of 2011)

- PRODUCERS: In 2010 estimation of 600,000 cocoa producers, but a total population of 6 millions of personnes deal with cocoa in Cameroon (Michael Ndoping, DG ONCC)

- 8 millions of Cameroonianians benefit directly or indirectly from cocoa revenue
Cameroon is the 5th world producing country after Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Indonesia. It is the 4th in Africa.

- Actual Production: 220,000 tons estimated in November 2011
- The Cameroon politics is to produce 600,000 tons of cocoa of good quality by 2020
STRATEGIES TO APPLY?

CONTRAINTS

- The orchard is very old
- Producers are very old, about 80% of them
- Soils under cocoa cultivation are poor, very low mineral elements
- No fertiliser used for cocoa cultivation
- Very high parasite pressure, diseases and many insects
- No improved seeds available for farmers
HIGH PARASITE PRESSURE

- High parasite pressure and multiple attack of pests
INDEGENOUS PATHOGENS

- Cocoa blackpod disease due to *Phytophthora megakarya* is the greatest with lost of 50 to 100% if no control applied.

- Cocoa Die-back disease *Lasiodiplodia theobromae* was the species most commonly associated with cocoa dieback.
Two mirid species, the brown capsid called *Sahlbergella singularis* and the black capsid called *Distantiella theobroma* are the most severe cocoa insect pests. The two species are responsible for about 30% of lost cocoa yield. The cocoa mosquito, *Helopeltis* spp, are present, but with less economic importance.
Many other cocoa insect pests

- STEMS AND BRANCHES BORERS

- Large number of defoliators (leaves damaging insects)
THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION