Evaluation of the larvae abundance of *Leucinodes orbonalis* Guenee (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) in the phenological stages of eggplants (*Solanum aethiopicum*) in Azaguié, Côte d'Ivoire

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1 **SUMMARY**

Eggplant shoot and fruit borer (EFSB), *Leucinodes orbonalis* Guenee (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) is a major pest that causes damage to the eggplants in Côte d'Ivoire. In order to establish an effective control method against this pest, a study of the abundance of larvae *L. orbonalis* according to phenological stages of eggplant was conducted in the locality of Azaguié, in Guinean area of Côte d'Ivoire. Investigations were carried out from October 2013 to June 2014. The method used were to a weekly counting of larvae on three varieties of the species *Solanum aethiopicum* (Djamba F₁, Kotobi and N'drowa issia) from 21th day after transplanting until the end of the harvest. All varieties recorded larvae during three phenological stages. The three varieties recorded more larvae at the fruiting stage than at the flowering and stage before flowering with 123.38 ± 4.09; 114.33 ± 4.22 and 106.18 ± 4.25 larvae per 24 plants respectively on Djamba F₁, Kotobi and N'drowa issia. Moreover, larvae were most abundant in the fruits than the shoots.