

Attacks and damage of termites (Insecta: Isoptera) in different cocoa agroforestry systems (Nawa, Côte d'Ivoire).

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1 ABSTRACT

To maintain its status of leading producer of cocoa in the world, Côte d'Ivoire must be contain the different types of threats, including the emergence of termites in cocoa farms. This study was conducted in the south-west of the country to evaluate the effect of cropping systems (full sun system, intermediate system and shaded system) on termite attacks. The study was conducted in four localities with different cocoa agroforestry systems. The sampling was made on cocoa trees in quadrats of 30mx30m and the attack rate was calculated. Eleven (11) termite species were identified. The wood-feeders groups were dominant. These termites were responsible for 41.82% of the damage on cocoa trees. Termite Attacks vary between different cropping systems. Full sun systems were most attacked comparing to intermediate shade systems that were least attacked by termites. This work shows that the shade system has an effect on termite attacks in cacao trees. The choice of right system can help to significantly reduce termite attacks in cocoa farms.
