



Distribution and daily fluctuation of *Coelaenomenodera lameensis* (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae: Hispinae) in the oil palm plantations of La Mé.

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ABSTRACT

Objective: *Coelaenomenodera lameensis* is an oil palm tree leaf miner. This pest causes extensive damage, which can compromise crops in the event of heavy outbreaks. To manage this pest population, it is very important to know the period of its intense activity during the day.

Methodology and results: Two monthly readings of the population level of *C. lameensis* were carried out on the 5th and 15th day on 3 plots in production at La Mé station of the National Agronomic Research Center. The readings were carried out according to time slots of 2 hours from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Results revealed that the population level is higher between 7-9 a.m. on each plot. Likewise, population's level has globally varied between 0 (3-5 p.m.) and 5.5 adults/palm (7-9 a.m.) and has been higher each year in the months of June, July and November with each time slot.

Conclusions and application of findings: These periods should be taken into account for possible insecticide treatments and for flooding releases of natural enemies against this pest. In addition, phytosanitary surveillance of palm groves should be strengthened in order to prevent possible attacks by this pest.

Keywords: *Coelaenomenodera lameensis*, daily distribution, daily fluctuation, oil palm tree, time slots, La Mé