



Shifted effect of the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit from the year 2010 on the variation expression of nuts yielding from the year 2013 in Côte d'Ivoire

A.E. ISSALI^{1,2}, S. N. DJOMAN³, D. SIDIBE³, A. KOUASSI^{1,4}, A. SANGARE^{1,5}, A. AMONCHO^{1,6}

¹Centre National de Recherche Agronomique, 01 BP 1740, Abidjan 01, Côte d'Ivoire.

²Station de Recherche sur le cocotier Marc DELORME, Service Sélection, 07 BP 13 Abidjan 07, Côte d'Ivoire.

³Laboratoire de Génétique, Université Félix Houphouët Boigny d'Abidjan, 22 BP 582, Abidjan 22, Côte d'Ivoire.

⁴Direction de la Station de Recherche sur le palmier à huile, La Mé, 13 BP 789 Abidjan 13. Côte d'Ivoire.

⁵Direction Générale Adjointe du CNRA, 01 BP 1740, Abidjan 01, Côte d'Ivoire.

⁶Conseil Scientifique de la Direction Générale du CNRA pour la Coopération Internationale, 01 BP 1740, Abidjan 01, Côte d'Ivoire.

Abstract To assess the shifted effect of the six climatic variables on the further nuts yielding expression, the modeling was investigated. The monthly nuts yielding, maximum temperature, minimum temperature, temperature difference, average temperature, rainfall and water deficit were daily measured, calculated and recorded. The ANOVA and backward elimination multiple linear regression technique were used. The monthly nuts yielding in 2010 was greater as in 2013, confirming the decreasing trend of yielding. During the two years, out of the temperature difference, the five other climatic variables were not significantly varied, indicating their constancy. The minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit variations from year 2010 accounted for 64.20% fluctuations of the monthly nuts yielding from 2013. Thus, these three climatic variables significantly acted on the monthly nuts yielding variations expression. The linear equation which modeled the monthly nuts yielding is written: $Yielding = -1436.11 + 1275.303 * T_{min} + 49.437 * Rain + 31.476 * Watdef$. Nonetheless, it specifically applied to year 2010 and 2013 as well as 2011 and 2013. We cannot do of that general rule.

Keywords Climatic variables, linear equation, multiple linear regression, modeling monthly nuts yielding

Introduction

Cocos nucifera L., multi-purpose uses plant, is oleaginous and sugar crop of the Arecaceae [1]. In Côte d'Ivoire, cultivated areas cover about 50,000 hectares for yielding about 330 million nuts. The coconut crop supports 23,000 families essentially based on the coastal region [2]. Moreover, the Marc Delorme Coconut Research Station (MDCRS) hosts the International Coconut Genebank for Africa and Indian Ocean (ICGAIO). It is one of the five genebanks managed by International Coconut Genetic Resources Network (COGENT) around the world. It provides seednuts not only to Africa and Indian Ocean countries, but also around the world. Out of such a mission, by-products from the research are marketed at local level. Hence, at the end of the nuts harvest, the samples intended to the research are sent to the technology unit. This determines technological characteristics of different nut compounds as well as oil content. The rest of yielding is sold to customers' CNRA (Centre National de Recherche Agronomique).

To date, out of some works such as those from Peiris et al., [3] which modeled the yielding in coconut palm in India, information about yielding modeling are scarce. Therefore, the factors predicting the yielding in Côte



d'Ivoire are unknown. Indeed, it was noted a decreasing of the monthly and annual coconut yielding at the MDCRS.

In that light, we postulate that among the six climatic variables, namely the maximum temperature, minimum temperature, temperature difference, average temperature, rainfall and water deficit at least one could significantly determine the monthly fluctuations of the nuts yielding.

The knowledge of yielding prediction model could allow the incomes and yielding prediction to make profitable the coconut investment.

The goal of work was to search for the equation which models the yielding fluctuations as a function of six climatic variables.

Materials and Methods

Plant Material, Data Collection Site and Technical Materials

Data from the field were daily collected at the MDCRS based on Port Bouët in Côte d'Ivoire from 2004 to 2013. They proceeded from harvested and scored nuts. These were skinned monthly or bi-monthly for need monitoring as a function varietal type. Three plant material types were used. These are tall and dwarf coconut ecotypes as well as the hybrid ones. The first two proceed from the ICGAIO located at the MDCRS. They are *ex situ* conserved at field for need research and development. The latter is constituted of tall x tall, dwarf x tall and dwarf x dwarf coconut hybrids in accordance with three coconut breeding ways. Indeed, dwarf ecotypes and dwarf x dwarf hybrids are harvested monthly, while the tall ecotypes, tall x tall and dwarf x tall hybrids are harvested every two months. The experiments intended to research are put in place by plantation managing division. Beyond twelve or fifteen years, the research returns experiments to plantation managing division for by-products valuation. Seventy fields of the MDCRS provided data used here.

The technical materials consisted of sickle attached to the tip of a bamboo, rubber ribs, machetes, tractor-trailer, tool bag, registration notebook, permanent markers, ball point pens, dehusking stake.

The harvest, grouping recording and collecting of ripe nuts were done by team of four persons. The harvested nuts were grouped by five. The registration team scored and recorded nuts harvested per tree in the field. These nuts grouped were charged in trailer of tractor and conducted at collection area. On this one, in turn, the ripe fruits were dehusked and scored. The sale clerk has counted the dehusked nuts number by dehuskers and compared it to the one recorded in the field

Variables Measurement

The number of ripe fruits harvested was scored every day and recorded. At the end of each month, the person in charge of the plantation managing division added them to provide data that we used in your study.

Data analysis methods

The softwares SPSS and Xlstat, versions 16.0 and 2007, respectively were used for statistical analyses. Collected data were subjected successively to parametric test and multiple regression technique. The two-tailed two-sample t-test at 5% threshold as well as the backward elimination stepwise multiple linear regression technique were used.

Results

Year effect on the monthly coconuts yielding and six climatic variables expression in 2010 and 2013

Regarding, the monthly coconuts yielding, two distinct groups were evidenced. The first one constituted of year 2013 was characterised by low monthly coconuts yielding. The second one composed of year 2010 was marked by high monthly coconuts yielding. Dispersion around mean varied from 9.54 to 9.80% (Table 1).

For climatic variables, no significant difference was observed for two years of the study concerning maximum temperature, minimum temperature, average temperature, temperature differences, rainfall and water deficit. In contrast, the rainfall provided two homogeneous groups. First, composed of year 2013, was characterised by weak monthly rainfall. Second, consisted of year 2010, was distinguished by strong monthly rainfall. Variability around calculated mean fluctuated from 1.24 to 19.15 (Table 1).



Table 1: Classification of yearly means of the monthly coconuts yielding as a function of year based on parametric Student t test.

Factor	Dependent variable	Factor variant	Transformed mean	CV (%)	Inverse mean	Measurement unit
Year	Yielding	2013	416.310a	9.80	173314.310	fruits
		2010	467.577b	9.54	218628.085	fruits
	Tmax	2010	1.483a	1.62	30.416	°C
		2013	1.483a	1.64	30.416	°C
	Tmin	2013	1.344a	1.67	22.080	°C
		2010	1.355a	1.24	22.667	°C
	Tmoy	2013	-	4.93	18.0194a	°C
		2010	-	4.50	18.2083a	°C
	Etm	2010	-	14.06	7.775a	°C
		2013	-	13.79	8.358 b	°C
	Rain	2013	1.707a	16.33	49.921	mm
		2010	2.231b	15.08	170.177	mm
	Watdef	2010	0.431a	185.575	2.698	mm
		2013	1.085a	19.15	12.151	mm

Legend: CV (%)*: Coefficient of variation. **Inverse mean*:** Values were obtained squaring the transformed ones.

Shifted effect of the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit from 2010 on the monthly nuts yielding variation expression from 2013

The backward elimination stepwise multiple linear regression technique showed that out of six climatic variables, only three namely minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit triggered rough fall of the coefficient of determination namely R^2 . Therefore, the regression of the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit recorded in 2013 on mature yielded fruits in 2010 was significant. The second one was retained in the rest of the study. Indeed, the removal of the temperature differences in model 1 increased the coefficient of determination R^2 of 0.10%, instead of reducing it. This model explained 64.20% fluctuations minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit (Table 2).

The linear function corresponding to the monthly coconuts yielding is spelt: $Yielding = -1436.11 + 1275.303 * T_{min} + 49.437 * Rain + 31.476 * Watdef$. This equation shows that the monthly nuts yielding increases on average of 1275.303, when the minimum temperature increases of 1°C, increases on average of 49.437, when the rainfall increases of 1 mm, increases on average of 31.476, when the water deficit increases of 1 mm. This yielding would be equal to -1436.11 if the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit was zero.

Table 2: Effects of minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit on the monthly nuts production based on backward elimination stepwise multiple linear regression technique.

Model*	Source	SS*	df*	MS*	F	p-value*	Adjusted R ² (%)*
1	Regression	14128.901	4	3532.225	5.905	0.021a	64.10
	Residual	4187.376	7	598.197			
	Total	18316.277	11				
2	Regression	13551.283	3	4517.094	7.584	0.010b	64.20
	Residual	4764.994	8	595.624			
	Total	18316.277	11				
3	Regression	12601.575	2	6300.788	9.923	0.005c	61.90
	Residual	5714.701	9	634.967			
	Total	18316.277	11				
4	Regression	11931.25	1	11931.25	18.686	0.002d	61.70
	Residual	6385.027	10	638.503			
	Total	18316.277	11				

Legend: df*: degree of freedom. SS*: Sum of squares. MS*: Mean square. F*: Fisher-Snedecor statistics. p-value: Calculated probability to compare with 5% significance level. a, Predictors: Constant, Watdef2010, Etm2010, Tmin2010, Rain2010. b, Predictors: Constant, Watdef2010, Tmin2010, Rain2010. c, Predictors:



Constant, Watdef2010, Tmin2010. d, Predictors: Constant, Tmin2010. e, Dependent Variable: Yielding2013. **Adjusted R² (%)***: Coefficient of determination taking into account the number.

Discussion

The cumulative effect of the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit from 2010 on the subsequent yielding variation expression from 2013 was measured. In Sri Lanka, Peiris et al., [3] showed that, 94% fluctuations yielding were due among other things to rainfall. In Côte d'Ivoire, Traoré [4] revealed that the minimum temperature accounted for 65.14% variations monthly coconuts yielding. Our works displayed that, 64.20% variations monthly nuts yielding from the year 2013 were attributable to the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit from the year 2010.

The monthly nuts yielding in the year 2010 was the highest (Table 1). Nonetheless, there is strong decreasing trend of the yielding in fields of the MDCRS since 2003. One of the reasons of this decreasing is the lack of chemical fertilisation in fields since fifteen years. Dassé [5], analysing monthly yielding from 2003 to 2009, identified three yielding year classes. The third one namely 2009 was marked by low yielding. Likewise, our results showed that year 2013 was the least productive. It would be good to analyse deeply this decreasing trend to deduct general rule regarding yielding at the MDCRS.

During the year 2010, rainfall was the highest (Table 1). The annual pluviometric total was 2596.5 mm, as against 1830.09 mm for decennial annual average pluviometric total from 2000 to 2009 [6]. Such increased gaps of rainfall level could be due to effects of climatic warming.

Shifted effect of the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit from the year 2010 explained 64.20% fluctuations of monthly coconuts yielding from the year 2013 (Table 2). Hence, it would exist a significant shifted effect from 3 years between the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit and the monthly nuts yielding. This effect is not direct, but shifted in the time. In the other words, the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit from a given year don't act on the nuts yielding from the same year. Thus, effects of the three aforementioned climatic variables were expressed three years later. Issali [7] showed that somatic embryogenesis in *Theobroma cacao* increased three month after the increasing of the relative humidity. Tan and Furtek [8] reported in *Theobroma cacao* that the floral explants harvested and cultured at the beginning of the rainy season, especially after a period of prolonged dry season, acquired a high efficiency in somatic embryogenesis. In the same way, Allou [9] showed that, in Côte d'Ivoire, the yielding in oil palm at 28th month is determined by the water deficit having prevailed 27 months earlier. However, we cannot do it as a general rule. Indeed, the tests achieved using data ranging from 2004 to 2013 did not provide a good fit namely R². Only effects of three climatic variables from 2011 also were well-fitted in relation to those of the nuts yielding from 2013. Nonetheless, in the two cases, the climatic variables namely rainfall and water deficit belong to linear model. Thus, the minimum temperature, rainfall and water deficit significantly determined the monthly nuts yielding fluctuations.

Yielding = -1436.11 + 1275.303*Tmin + 49.437*Rain + 31.476*Watdef is the linear equation which models the fluctuations of the monthly nuts yielding. Peiris et al., [3] proposed a model for nuts yielding including technology and rainfall. Issali et al., [6] found an equation modeling the seed nuts yielding proceeding from controlled pollinations using set fruits. In our equation, the regression coefficient associated with the minimum temperature is the highest. This shows the importance of this climatic variable. Indeed, it accounted for itself 61.70% variations of the monthly nuts yielding (Table 2). Its positive sign shows that it varies in the same sense than the monthly nuts yielding. Therefore, the years recording the highest minimum temperatures could provide high yielding. Nevertheless, we cannot do it as a general rule.

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