



TITLE: Pollinators of Oil Palm and Relationship to Fruitset and Yields in Two Fruit Forms in Ghana

Name: Samuel O. Riley

Affiliation: Entomologist at Presco Plc, Km 22, Benin/Sapele Road, Ikpoba-Okah Local Government Area, Benin City, Edo State

Country: Nigeria

Email ID: samuelrileyowosu@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

A study on the insect pollinators of oil palm was carried out on two fruit forms: *Dura* and *Tenera*, (ages ten and seven respectively), in Ghana. The aim was to understand how average monthly population density of the pollinators relates to one another, and to two bunch parameters (fruitset and fruit-to-bunch ratio). Nine species (all in the order Coleoptera) were consistently seen on the spikelets of anthesising male inflorescences, and eleven species on receptive female inflorescences. Six were of the *Elaeidobius* genus: *E. kamerunicus*, *E. plagiatus*, *E. singularis*, *E. subvittatus*, *E. bilineatus*, and *Elaeidobius* sp.1 (unidentified species); two each were of the *Microporum* genus: *M. congolenses*, *M. dispar*, and the *Prosoestus* genus: *P. scuptilis*, *P. minor*; while one species was of either *Atheta* or *Forficula*. The pollinators were observed to be positively related, and to varying degree of significance. Fruitset level was acceptably high, indicating adequate pollinator population and efficient pollination. There was a positive relationship between population density of the pollinators and fruitset, and a negative relationship between the bunch parameters. A number of other insects were seldom observed around the male and female inflorescences; their role could not be defined.

BIOGRAPHY

Samuel O. Riley has a Master of Philosophy (MPhil.) degree in Entomology from the University of Ghana, Legon and is presently the Entomologist for SIAT. His office is at Presco Plc, Edo State, Nigeria, one of SIAT's subsidiaries.

Presenter Name: Samuel O. Riley

Mode of Presentation: Oral/Poster.

Contact number: +234 80 6233 1409



Upload your photo here.