

International perspectives on the cocoa sector: expansion or green and double green revolutions?

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Francois Ruf CIRAD UMR Innovations



Inefficiency of estates and large farms when prices and revenues collapse





Smallholders' high efficiency and capacity of resistance when prices and revenues collapse





Since 2001, among the three major cocoa producing countries, Ghana displays the most impressive increase in production (compare to the late 1990s)





This is partially explained by a beginning of 'green revolution': new planting material, more pesticides, fungicides and a quite <u>recent adoption</u> <u>of fertilizers</u>.





Fertilizers, in particular, have an enormous potential in cocoa farming in West-Africa





The Cocoa boom in Ghana in the 2000s: a combination of expanding production areas and spectacular yield increases (plus some smuggling from Côte d'Ivoire)

Box 1. Expansion and Intensification: estimated breakdown of the increase in cocoa production in Ghana



Sources: CIRAD Survey, 2007.



Regular and consistant cocoa yield increase in Ghana in the 2000s

 Table 15. Changes in cocoa yields per hectare (with the hypothesis of one pole equivalent to 0.90 acre)

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(E+f)-(a+b)
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	/ (a+b) (in %)
Eastern Region	158	208	304	272	316	257	57%
Kade							
Central Region,	259	266	286	298	319	307	19%
Hemang							
Ashanti	181	187	223	164	192	163	-4%
Afigya Sekyere							
Brong Ahafo,	<mark>484</mark>	<mark>512</mark>	<mark>562</mark>	<mark>611</mark>	<mark>692</mark>	<mark>719</mark>	42%
Dormaa							
Wassa Amenfi							
West (Chichiso	247	265	357	280	383	404	48%
Pensanum)	2.17	200		200	202	101	1070
Wassa Amenfi	354	314	325	345	362	366	12%
West (Obing)							
Aowin Suaman	430	453	474	480	482	426	3%
(Samreboi)							
Nzema East	<mark>554</mark>	<mark>517</mark>	<mark>528</mark>	<mark>612</mark>	<mark>697</mark>	<mark>679</mark>	20%
(Adubrim)							
All	304	324	369	367	424	417	
		+7%	+14%	-1%	+16%	-2%	34%
Increase (n/n-1)							

Sources: Ruf 2007



This 'beginning of green revolution' in Ghana must be moderated if compared to the intensive farming systems in Indonesia but their respective input consumption levels may well be much closer in the next years.





Meantime, despite a more modern way of producing cocoa, despite a true green revolution, Indonesia does not escape the sustainability problem





Hence a need to anticipate externalities of green revolutions by 'Double Green' approaches, namely reintroducing biological capital in the systems, especially trees.





What to do with an ageing and declining cocoa farm?



CIRAD

As seen above, fertilizers can work ... but trees can also generate windfalls

Budget simulation of a 14-acre cocoa farm and impact of 2.25 acres of teak





Conclusion

- 1. Once the forest and 'forest rent' have gone,
- modern inputs such as fertilizers become and remain extremely useful and absolutely necessary. The extremely recent adoption of fertilizers in West-Africa is a geat achievement in itself
- but they have to be combined with organic factors, biological capital, in order to progressively rebuild a 'post-forest rent', a key factor in sustainability.
- 2. Smallholders are certainly brighter than estates to respond to this challenge
- 3. Eventually, due to demographic pressure and innovations, and if taxation is not to heavy in West-Africa, we will probably see more convergence among cocoa smallholders' performances in the three continents in the near future