

Project Update: August 2010

In January 2010, the project started. The project is supported by “Corporación Nacional Forestal” (National Forest Corporation) and its national plan for the Chilean palm conservation, due to the importance of the project for the future of the Chilean palm population and its vulnerability.

The first step consisted of creating a matrix to work on, and analys all the parameters considered for this study.

- **Inclination:** Two groups were established. One as “low inclination” referring to those areas which have a slope lower than 20°; “half inclination”, this is for the sampling points with an inclination between 21° and 40°; and finally, “high inclination” going from 41° to 90°.
- **Coverage:** It was subdivided in three groups, “high coverage” (↑) places where more than half of the surface is covered by plants; “half coverage” (1/2) sampling points where the coverage varies between 25% and 49%; and “low coverage” (↓) places with poor vegetation, corresponding to less than 25%.
- **Hillside exposure:** Separated in four possibilities: North, South, East and West; and the combination of these.

In the project, the application of the correspondent methodology is considered during the four seasons of the year. Currently, only the autumn stage is completed, while winter stage is still developing.

Some information obtained in this first phase is:

The abundance of regeneration and its distribution in the different conditions of sampling (using age classification of the Chilean palm)

Chart I. Abundance of Chilean palm regeneration in Ocoa.

Slope	0-20			21-40			41-85		
	↓	1/2	↑	↓	1/2	↑	↓	1/2	↑
North	2	0	18	0	0	0	0	3	0
Northeast	0	0	0	0	2	14	0	1	0
East	8	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	16
Southeast			2		11		0	0	3
South				0	1	0	0	2	7
Southwest			2	0	0	15	1	0	0
West	0	2	16	0	0	0	0	0	5
Northwest	11	2	12	0	0	12	0	1	0
--	0	1	15						

Chart II. Abundance of regeneration of the Chilean palm in the ravine El Quiteño

Slope	0-20			21-40			41-85		
	↓	1/2	↑	↓	1/2	↑	↓	1/2	↑
North									
Northeast	2								
East									4
Southeast									
South									
Southwest									
West									
Northwest							1		
--			1						

The richness of micro mammal species associated with the Chilean palm are:

- *Abrothrix longipillis* (woolly mouse)
- *Abrothrix olivaceus* (olivaceous mouse)
- *Octodon degu* (degu)
- *Oligoryzomys longicaudatus* (long-tailed colilargo)
- *Phyllotis darwini* (Darwin's big-eared mouse)
- *Rattus rattus* (water rat)

The ground temperature

Chart III. Ocoa's ground temperature averages (°C)

Slope	0-20			21-40			41-85		
	↓	1/2	↑	↓	1/2	↑	↓	1/2	↑
North	10,77	9,51	10,18	12,95	18,42	11,88	13,98	11,17	9,63
Northeast	13,75	12,32	10,79	12,57	11,72	11,56	17,35	11,89	11,84
East	11,75	10,58	12,20	13,65	10,37	11,16	16,77	15,23	11,93
Southeast			9,73		11,04		8,91	9,01	11,57
South				9,45	9,74	9,01	10,43	9,56	11,47
Southwest			9,36	9,46	10,65	10,52	8,90	18,18	11,37
West	16,40	9,92	10,21	10,63	13,80	8,78	13,77	11,49	10,09
Northwest	12,66	10,18	10,56	9,23	10,50	11,45	11,55	11,32	11,27
--	14,64	11,09	12,40						

