

Project Update: February 2018

Preliminary fieldwork has been done so as to identify the areas to be prospected, and to get additional contacts to be used for the fieldwork.

After that the first fieldwork was started and aimed at characterising the ecological conditions of the populations of the species and documenting the influential enemies of the species. For this the two forest patches of Ewè and Adakplamè have been covered with the help of local guides. Data collection are ongoing and will yield excellent results in 2 months' time. As we are currently in dry season coupled with Harmattan, it is not possible to gather influential enemies at this step. So we plan to do it with start of the first rains. Seeds of the species are also being collected currently for the germination.

Below some relevant photos from the fieldwork



Left: Collection of leaf sample of *Mansonia altissima* by principal investigator. Right: Seeds specimens of *Mansonia altissima* from the field.



Leaves attack of *Mansonia altissima*



Ewe-Adakplame Forest