Fruits and seed production of brazil nut *(Bertholletia excelsa)* in an agroforestry system in Confiança region, Roraima State, Brazil

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Preferred session ***A1. Multistrata agroforestry systems with perennial crops***

Abstract The agriculture activity of monocultures in the Amazon region has always been characterized by incompatible practices. There is not much knowledge about the Amazon species in intercropping or in agroforestry systems. The brazil nut is one of the main components of agroforestry systems – (AFS) localized in the northern region of Brazil. The silvicultural behaviour of the species results in the brazil nut being considered as one of the most promising species for restored areas in either agroforestry systems or homogeneous stands. This study aimed to show production data of fruits and seeds of the brazil nut in AFS installed in forest areas since 1995 at the Experimental Station Confiança, Cantá, Roraima State, Brazil with coordinates (02º15'00" N; 60º39'54"E) on the property of Embrapa Roraima, located 90 km from the city, Boa Vista. The climate of the region is classified as Ami (Köppen) and has monsoonal influence. The mean temperature during the year stays around 26 29 ºC. The dominant soil in the region is classified as red-yellow distrofic argisol with low fertility levels. The system contains timber trees components such as *Carapa guianensis, Goupia glabra* and *Pithecellobium saman* and fruit trees components such as Theobroma grandiflorum, Bactris gasipaes and Coffea canephora. The space between rows and trees is 2 m x 3 m, totalling 1840 trees/ha. The results recorded t during 2007 were on 68 measured trees, of which 40 (60%) were productive, the number fruits produced ranged from 1 to 53 (mean 9.9); number of seeds from 15 to 1016 (mean 154), and the seed weight changed between 155 g and 9 kg (mean 142 kg). The relation of seed weight to seed fruit was on average 0.151. The tree with the best development produced 53 fruits and 9 kg of seeds.These data fallow course to the maturity of brazil nut.

Sacred sites in the landscapes of the Lake Victoria region: community domestication for conservation and develpment

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Preferred session ***B6. Agroforestry as a tool for landscape restoration***

Abstract Sacred sites are found in virtually every community in the landscapes of the Lake Victoria region of East Africa. They were in the past places reserved for worship of the gods and places of sacrifice whenever a community faced difficult times. These included for example delaying rains or famine. Owing to these sacrifices and taboos the sites acquired a somewhat eerie presence in the landscape and have therefore been relatively better conserved. They are a repository of community cultural artefacts replete with associated folklore. Equally important is the rich biodiversity conserved in these habitats including indigenous fruits and herbal medicinal plant resources that were part of indigenous cuisine and heath-care systems. These resources are faced with the imminent threat of extinction and yet they constitute community priority species for conservation. These resources can be conserved through domestication and integration into farming systems. Prerequisites for such intervention include development of simple propagation methods for community nursery adoption. The indigenous fruits can be marketed as part a new ecotourism package with cultural artifacts, folklore and traditional performing art in a uniquely exciting ecotourism package.

Key words: sacred sites, biodiversity conservation community priority species for conservation, domestication of indigenous fruits and herbs, cultural artifacts, folklore, indigenous cuisines, ecotourism

Agroforestry potential in the Nile River Basin, Ethiopia: a challenge to counterbalance farm land fragmentation