

Abstract for oral presentation for 7<sup>th</sup> ISHS Pineapple Symposium

**A bait and trap method for sampling symphylid populations in pineapple**

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**Abstract**

We developed a standardized method to monitor the Symphylids (*Hanseniella* sp) populations in pineapple using bait and traps. Two methods for symphylid extraction and counting were tested. Two statistical methods, the “variance/mean” ratio and a spatial analysis (Moran and Geary indices) were used to describe the type of spatial distribution of the populations. This bait and trap method allows a good evaluation of the symphylid populations. The ratio between adults and larvae may be used as an indicator of the population growth statute. Data collected on a rotation crop for pineapple, *Mucuna pruriens* var. *utilis*, showed that symphylids populations are highly aggregated following a negative binomial distribution. Finally, the method has been validated on MD2 pineapple plots to monitor the symphylids populations at different stages of development of the crop.

**Keywords** : *Symphylids, spatial distribution, trap, Pineapple*

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