



PROGRAMME REGIONAL DE PRODUCTION INTEGREE DU COTON EN AFRIQUE

Bénin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun,
Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Sénégal,
Tchad et Togo

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INFOS PR-PICA

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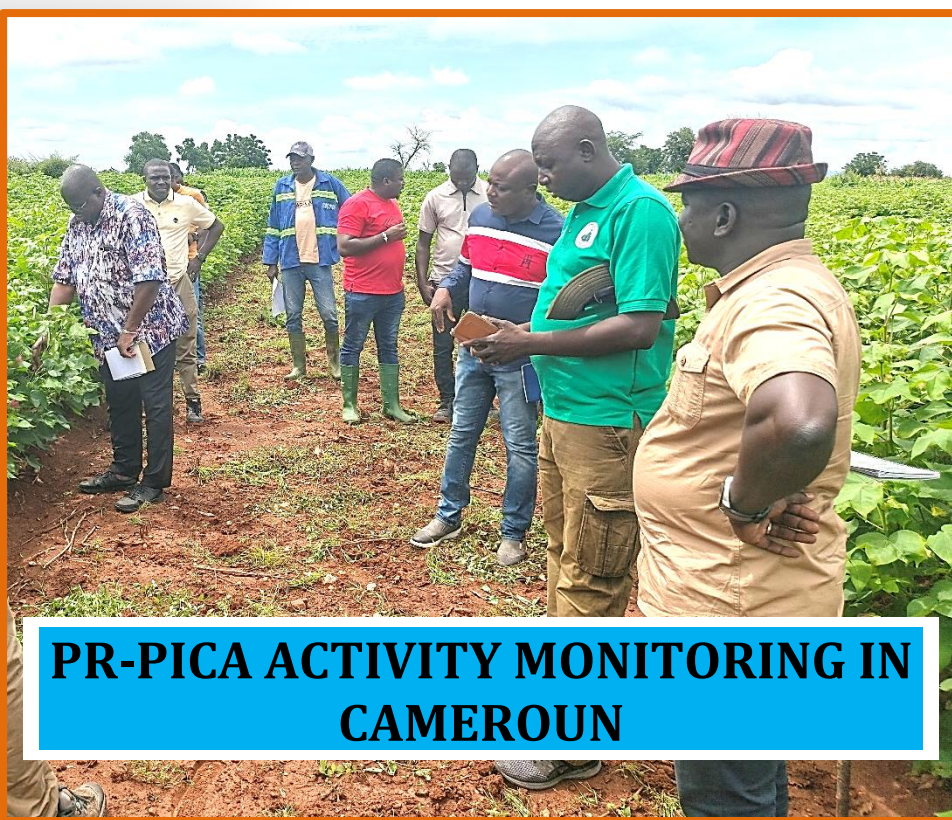
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PR-PICA.

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2025/2026 cotton season was marked in September by average rainfall in most countries covered by the Programme, with pockets of drought and flooding in some areas of certain countries.

Pest pressure in September 2025 was characterised by low to moderate infestations of lepidoptera, particularly *Helicoverpa armigera* and *Earias* spp. As for sucking pests, they were still dominated by jassids, *Amrasca biguttula*, with low to moderate infestations depending on the country. Moderate infestations of whitefly and *Dysdercus* bugs were also recorded in a few countries.

In addition, as part of the monitoring of activities for the 2025/2026 season, a PR-PICA delegation visited the trials set up in Cameroon and exchanged views with stakeholders in the cotton sector.

SEPTEMBER 2025 RAINFALL

Agro-ecological zones	Dekad	Bénin		Burkina Faso		Cameroun		Côte d'Ivoire		Mali		Sénégal		Tchad		Togo	
		nber days	height (mm)	nber days	height (mm)	nber days	height (mm)	nber days	height (mm)	nber days	height (mm)	nber days	height (mm)	nber days	height (mm)	nber days	height (mm)
Dry zone/ North	Dekad 1	4	88	3	55	5	75	2	42	4	43	5	87	3	74	3	71
	Dekad 2	4	55	3	71	3	24	4	28	5	67	4	51	3	49	4	81
	Dekad 3	4	58	4	64	3	42	4	36	3	22	3	56	3	42	4	62
	Total	12	201	10	190	11	141	10	106	12	132	12	194	9	165	11	213
Median zone/ Center	Dekad 1	2	34	6	73	3	28	4	65	4	41	5	74	3	79	2	25
	Dekad 2	4	56	5	44	5	101	5	133	4	38	4	60	3	62	3	46
	Dekad 3	3	59	5	46	4	75	4	40	3	53	2	33	4	79	3	54
	Total	9	150	16	163	12	204	13	238	11	132	11	167	10	221	8	125
Humid zone South	Dekad 1	1	19	3	65	3	56	4	114	2	19	5	91	4	86	1	23
	Dekad 2	3	59	4	70	5	99	3	17	6	97	6	103	4	77	3	58
	Dekad 3	2	32	4	55	5	60	3	55	2	33	4	64	4	83	2	37
	Total	6	110	11	190	13	215	10	186	10	149	15	258	12	246	6	118
AVERAGE SEPTEMBER 2025		9	153	12	181	12	187	11	177	11	138	13	206	10	211	8	152
RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION		XX		XXX		XX		XX		XX		XXX		XX		XX	

X= Low distribution. XX : Average distribution. XXX : Good distribution

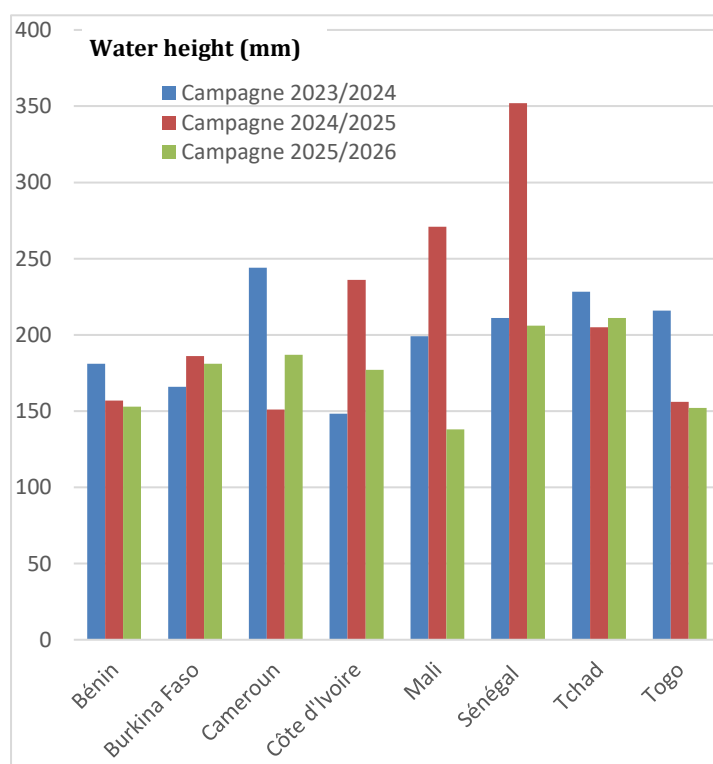
September 2025 was moderately rainy across all countries, with rainfall varying from 138 mm in Mali and Togo to 211 mm in Chad.

Rainfall distribution was average to good depending on the country, ranging from 8 days of rain in Togo to 13 days in Senegal.

Localised pockets of drought were recorded in the dry zone in Chad and in the humid zones in Côte d'Ivoire and Togo. Localised flooding was also noted in most countries, but with limited damage.

Overall, the continuation of rainfall until the end of September is favourable for most countries, which recorded a fairly high rate of late sowing this season.

Compared to rainfall in September of the previous season, there has been an increase in rainfall for September 2025 in Cameroon (+36 mm) and Chad (+6 mm). However, a decrease is recorded in Benin (-4 mm), Burkina Faso (-5 mm), Côte d'Ivoire (-59 mm), Mali (-133 mm), Senegal (-146 mm) and Togo (-4 mm).



September 2025 Rainfall, compared to the last two seasons

AVERAGE PEST SITUATION AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Pests	Infestation level by country								Observations
	Bénin	Burkina Faso	Cameroun	Côte d'Ivoire	Mali	Sénégal	Tchad	Togo	
<i>H. armigera</i>	XX	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Medium infestations in Bénin
<i>Earias spp</i>	XX	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Medium infestations in Bénin
<i>D. watersi</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Low infestations
<i>T. leucotreta</i>	X			X			X	X	Low infestations
<i>P. gossypiella</i>	X			X			X	X	Low infestations
<i>Bemisia tabaci</i>	X	X	X	X	XX	X	XX	X	Medium infestations in Mali and Tchad
Jassides (<i>Amrasca biguttula</i>)	X	X	XX	X	XX	XX	XX	X	Low to Medium infestations depending on the country
Jassides (others)	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	Low infestations
<i>Dysdercus spp</i>	X	X		X	XX	X	XX	X	Medium infestations in Mali and Tchad
<i>A. gossypii</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Low infestations
<i>P. latus</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X	Low infestations
<i>H. derogata</i>	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	Low infestations
<i>A. flava</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	Low infestations
<i>S. littoralis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Low infestations
Virescence florale	X	X		X		X	X		Low infestations
Fusariose	X			X		X	X		Low infestations
Bactériose	X			X			X		Low infestations
<i>S. frugiperda</i> (sur coton)	X			X					Low infestations

X = Low infestation; XX = Medium infestation; XXX = High infestation

For September 2025, the level of lepidopteran infestation is relatively low in all countries except Benin, where moderate infestations of *Helicoverpa armigera* and *Earias* spp. have been recorded. Increased monitoring of these pests is still necessary to avoid severe infestations, especially on late-sown plots.

As for sucking pests, low to moderate infestations of the jassid *Amrasca biguttula* have been noted in some countries. In addition, moderate infestations of the whitefly *Bemisia tabaci* and the bug *Dysdercus* sp have been recorded in Mali and Chad.

In Burkina Faso, in certain areas of SOFITEX, there has been an increase in whiteflies and other species of jassids.

In Togo, moderate localised infestations of spider mites have been observed during periods of drought.

Furthermore, with the opening of the capsules, precautions must be taken against the *Dysdercus* bug. Split harvesting is strongly recommended to limit the deterioration of fibre and seed quality.

REGIONAL MONITORING OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2025/2026 SEASON

PR-PICA delegation visits the trials and exchanges views with stakeholders in Cameroon's cotton sector

In accordance with its 2025 programme of activities, a PR-PICA delegation comprising the President, Mr Tete AWOKOU, the Executive Secretary, Mr Félix SAWADOGO, and the Head of the Entomology Commission, Dr Omer HEMA, stayed in Garoua, Cameroon, from 9 to 12 September 2025. The representative of the Agronomy Commission was unable to take part in the mission due to last-minute constraints.

The delegation was joined by members of the PR-PICA National Coordination in Cameroon:

The objective of the mission was, on the one hand, to visit field activities (trials and tests) and, on the other hand, to discuss with stakeholders in the Cameroonian cotton sector the difficulties of the campaign and to gather their expectations regarding the Programme.

During the mission, the PR-PICA delegation held meetings with:

- ✓ members of the PR-PICA National Coordination in Cameroon;
- ✓ the Director General of the Cameroon Cotton Development Corporation (SODECOTON), Mr Mohamadou BAYERO;
- ✓ the Head of the Garoua Station of the Institute for Agricultural Research and Development (IRAD), Dr Gonne SOBDA;
- ✓ the Deputy Executive Director of the National Confederation of Cotton Producers of Cameroon (CNPC-C), Mr Abdoulaye MAHONDE.

Discussions on the difficulties of the season and expectations of PR-PICA focused mainly on the following key points:

- irregular rainfall at the start of the season, which prevented the planned sowing from being carried out ;



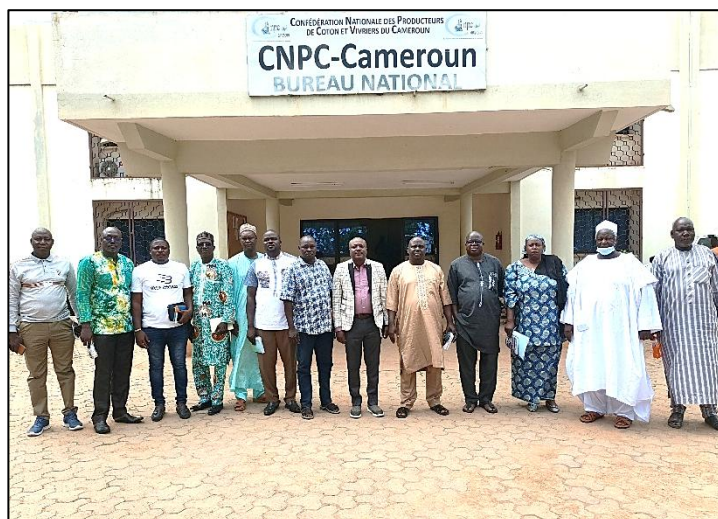
PR-PICA delegation with the General Director of SODECOTON, Mr Mohamadou BAYERO (second from left)

- the issue of soil fertility management;
- increasing productivity and reducing production costs;
- the decline in the effectiveness of flonicamid;
- the occurrence of jassids in Cameroon;
- early infestations of jassids as soon as seedlings emerge in certain localities;
- the high cost of new products to control whiteflies;
- the need to update treatment programmes for better jassid management.

In addition to these discussions, the delegation visited the entomology laboratory at one of SODECOTON's sites and observed the trials set up as part of the Programme in the Guider and Pitoa regions. These trials involved the following experiments:



PR-PICA delegation with the Head of the IRAD station in Garoua, Dr Gonne SOBDA (third from the right)



PR-PICA delegation with CNPC-C officials in Garoua

- Impact of jassid attacks on seed cotton yield;
- Assessment of crop losses and effectiveness of treatment programmes promoted in controlled environments;
- Assessment of the effectiveness of protection programmes promoted in farming communities;
- Monitoring of pest infestations in the field;
- Definition of intervention thresholds for whiteflies based on yellow sticky trap catches;
- Effect of calcium nitrate foliar sprays on cotton growth and production parameters;
- Variety selection as part of PR-PICA activities.

In general, the following is noted:

- the effective implementation and proper conduct of the programme's trials;
- pest infestations, particularly the jassids *A. biguttula* were low to moderate.



Visit to a trial on the impact of jassid attacks on seed cotton yield in Pitoa

The following recommendations emerged from this mission to Cameroon:

- ✚ Maintain phytosanitary monitoring to quickly detect pests that could cause damage to cotton plants;
- ✚ Closely monitor flea beetle infestations to prevent them from becoming a major problem in cotton production;
- ✚ Have several insecticides with different modes of action against jassids in order to delay the development of resistance;
- ✚ Identify the natural enemies of *A. biguttula* whiteflies;
- ✚ Have technical grades of active ingredients against jassids in order to determine their basic toxicity.



Discussions with technicians from the entomology laboratory in one of SODECOTON's facilities.



Trial on the effect of calcium nitrate foliar sprays in Guider



Trial on varietal selection as part of PR-PICA activities in Soukoundou

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION

PR-PICA participates in workshop on strengthening intellectual property rights protection and implementing electronic submission systems

CropLife Africa Middle East (CropLife AME), in partnership with the African Union Inter-African Plant Protection Organisation (AU-IPPO), organised a workshop on strengthening intellectual property rights (IPR) protection and setting up electronic submission systems in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 16 to 19 September 2025.

PR-PICA was represented at this important workshop by its President, Mr Tete AWOKOU.

The AU-IPC coordinates programmes to promote the responsible use of pesticides, combat illegal products and provide training and resources to farmers, regulatory authorities and other stakeholders. These efforts aim to promote sustainable agricultural practices throughout Africa.

The objective of this workshop is to strengthen the capacity of Member States and Partners to protect intellectual property rights (IPR) in crop protection.

This protection is essential to maintaining a steady flow of innovation, which is vital for improving farmers' access to and adoption of technologies that address plant health challenges. This will ultimately improve productivity, ensure food security and expand market access in Africa.

This workshop enabled:

- ✓ Raise awareness of the importance of IPR protection, existing provisions and shortcomings in the AME region;
- ✓ Raise awareness of the situation regarding illicit trade in pesticides in the AME region and the harmonisation of IPR strategies in order to facilitate cooperation against transnational illicit trade;



PR-PICA Président, Mr Tete AWOKOU

- ✓ Discuss strategies to assist countries in implementing regulatory measures/frameworks to strengthen intellectual property rights protection and support existing efforts to combat the illegal trade in pesticides;
- ✓ Develop a regional strategy to combat illicit trade, including awareness raising and customs collaboration;
- ✓ Share the progress of electronic submission and its benefits in the AME region and discuss strategies to support the establishment and acceleration of the implementation of electronic submission systems to improve the efficiency of registration.



Workshop participants

