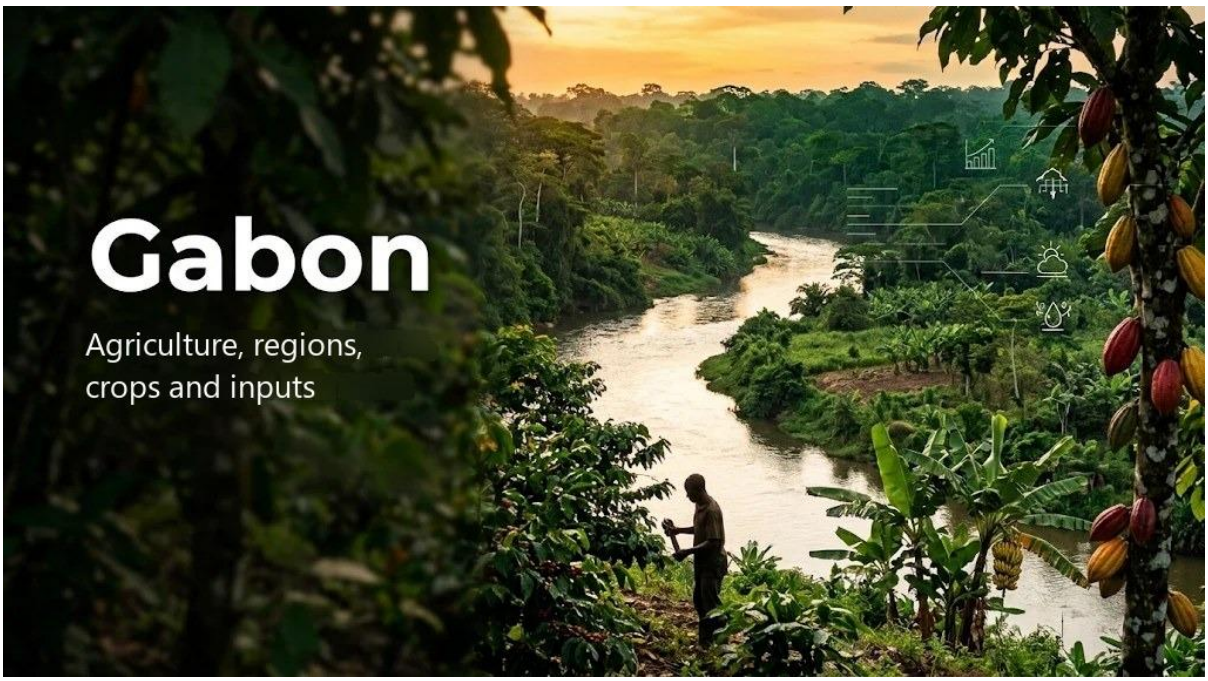


COUNTRY DOSSIER

Gabon dossier

Data, issues and a proposed trial at two sites, for the ministry responsible for agriculture and agricultural cooperatives.



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Foreword

This dossier presents Gabon from an agricultural perspective: The country, its nine provinces, its crops, its fertilisers and its regulatory framework. It also presents our products and proposes a one-season trial at two Gabonese sites.

The results cited come from public sources or documents published by Green Solutions. Each is indicated with its confidence level. No prices are given.

How to read this document

- Each figure includes its source and year.
- Levels A, B and C indicate the strength of the source (Appendix B).
- “To be confirmed” indicates a point that we were unable to verify at the date of publication.
- Production statistics are national totals. We found no public provincial production series.

Contents

- 1. Green Solutions at a glance
- 2. Gabon in figures
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- 5. Crops, by type
- 6. Fertilisers and inputs
- 7. Regulatory framework
- 8. Our products: ECOSORB and fertilisers as priorities
- 9. Trials and evidence
- 10. Proposed pilot in Gabon
- 11. Roadmap
- 12. Risks and limitations
- Appendices A to C: Sources, confidence levels, photo and illustration credits

Green Solutions

Summary

Gabon is a country of forest (91% of its territory) and cities (92% of its population). Its cultivated land is scarce: 1.3% of the territory. Agriculture must therefore produce more on little land, and better withstand the dry season.

3.52 M
inhabitants according to the 2026 census, validated by the Cour constitutionnelle (press). World Bank estimate for 2025: 2.59 M.

92%
of the population lives in urban areas (2025, World Bank).

6.8%
of GDP comes from agriculture, forestry and fishing (2025, World Bank).

1.3%
of the territory is arable land (2024). Forest covers 91.4%.

50 kg
of fertiliser nutrients per hectare of arable land (2024). Data probably not updated.

306,000 t
of cassava produced in 2024 (FAO, via Our World in Data).

Five messages

- **A country of forest and cities.** Cultivated land is scarce, and food demand is concentrated in cities, especially Libreville.
- **Rainfall is abundant, but poorly distributed.** In Libreville, June, July and August receive very little rain (40 mm, 1 mm and 11 mm). October and November are very wet (360 and 415 mm) and leach the soils.
- **The main productions are cassava, yam, sugar cane and oil palm.** Market gardening is almost absent from the statistics (346 t of tomatoes in 2024): It must be measured in the field.
- **Fertilisers are little used, and their regulatory framework remains to be clarified.** We found no text specific to fertilisers, either in Gabon or in the CEMAC area.
- **Our proposal:** a one-season trial, from May to October, at two sites (Libreville and Oyem), with four treatments and 16 plots per site. The emphasis is on ECOSORB and ECOFERT fertilisers.

What we request

- An opinion on the two sites and on the protocol (part 10).
- The 2026 figures by province, as soon as they are officially published.
- Appointment of an independent body to monitor the trial.

1. Green Solutions at a glance

1.1 Who we are

Green Solutions develops and markets products for water, fertilisation and crop protection. According to its website, the company operates in 42 countries, with more than 30 partners and a team of 17 experts and contacts. The website announces 15 pilot trials in progress; it lists 14 (section 1.3).

Source: Green Solutions website (level C, declarative).

1.2 Our products

Product	What the manufacturer says	Intended use	Available evidence (level)
ECOSORB®	Super-absorbent polymer based on maize starch. “About 300 times its weight” in water; “2 to 3 years” effect in the soil.	Retain water close to the roots, at planting or establishment.	Documented trials (part 9); acrylamide analysis by the Polymex laboratory, December 2024, according to the website (C).
ECOFERT®	Biological liquid fertiliser in microdoses. Free amino acids 8%, total nitrogen 1.73%. SOHISCERT and EU Bio certified.	Provide supplementary nutrients, by spraying or fertigation.	Claimed certifications (C); trials in progress (C).
EVERGREEN®	Potassium-based water-retention agent, sodium-free. “About 300 times its weight”; “3 to 4 years” effect in the soil.	Retain water at planting, in perennial crops and turf.	REACH / SVHC screening by SGS (2023): 233 substances tested, all below 0.1% by mass (C).
NAPEMA®	Crop protection without synthetic molecules, with preventive and curative effects.	Diseases, pests and fungi.	Approval status in Gabon to be checked (part 7).
Paulownia ALTIFOLIA®	Fast-growing tree: “13 to 15 m in six to eight years”.	Windbreak, soil protection, timber.	Management and suitability in Gabon to be confirmed.
Water Vital®	Product presented for irrigation water, associated with our water-retention agents.	Irrigation water.	No peer-reviewed study found (literature search).

Sources: Green Solutions website (product sheets, level C). Performance figures are those of the manufacturer.

1.3 Trials in progress listed on the website

Organisation	Location	Crop	Products
Trois Rivières	Martinique	Sugar cane	EVERGREEN, Water Vital
University of Florida (Gainesville)	Florida, United States	Red maples	EVERGREEN
Oregon State University (Corvallis)	Oregon, United States	Douglas firs	EVERGREEN
Axe Capital Forest	United Kingdom (Toledo, Spain)	Paulownia Phenix One	EVERGREEN, ECOFERT
Groupe Zarrouk	Tunisia	Tomatoes	ECOSORB, ECOFERT, Water Vital
Ficilia	Corsica, France	Olive and hazelnut trees	ECOSORB, ECOFERT, Water Vital
Institut Moreau-Daverne	France	Market gardening	ECOSORB, ECOFERT
Been Agro	Guinea (Conakry)	Maize and groundnuts	ECOSORB, ECOFERT
Groupe Goudaras	Greece	Chestnut trees	EVERGREEN, ECOFERT
Agro Complex	Poland	Maize and potatoes	EVERGREEN
Euromediterranee	Portugal	Phenix turf	EVERGREEN
Green Dream	Chichaoua, Morocco	Organic clementines, Paulownia	ECOSORB, ECOFERT, Water Vital
Arafa Cie	Egypt	Maize, clover, olive trees	EVERGREEN, ECOFERT
Eden Ecolodge	Madagascar	Market gardening, Paulownia	ECOSORB, ECOFERT

The website announces “fifteen pilot trials” and lists 14 entries. These are ongoing trials: To our knowledge, their results have not been published.

2. Gabon in figures

Gabon covers approximately 267,700 km². Its economy relies mainly on oil, timber and services. Agriculture has little weight in GDP, but remains an important share of employment.

2.1 Key indicators

Indicator	Value	Year	Source (level)
Population (estimate)	2,593,130	2025	World Bank (A)
Population, 2013 census	1,811,079	2013	Direction générale de la statistique, RGPL 2013 (A)
Population, 2026 census	3,518,621	2026	Validated by the Cour constitutionnelle, according to the press; detailed report not published (B, to be confirmed)
Urban population	92.1%	2025	World Bank (A)
GDP per capita	8,263 USD	2025	World Bank (A)
Agricultural value added	6.75% of GDP	2025	World Bank (A)
Agricultural employment	28.9% of employment	2025	ILO estimate, via World Bank (A)
Food imports	15.7% of merchandise imports	2023	World Bank (A)
Undernourishment	23.3% of the population	2024	FAO, via World Bank (A)
Agricultural land	6.88% of the territory	2024	World Bank (A)
Arable land	1.26% of the territory	2024	World Bank (A)
Forest cover	91.44% of the territory	2024	World Bank (A)
Cereal yield	1,587 kg/ha	2024	World Bank (A)
Fertilisers	50.3 kg/ha of arable land	2024	World Bank (A, probably not updated)

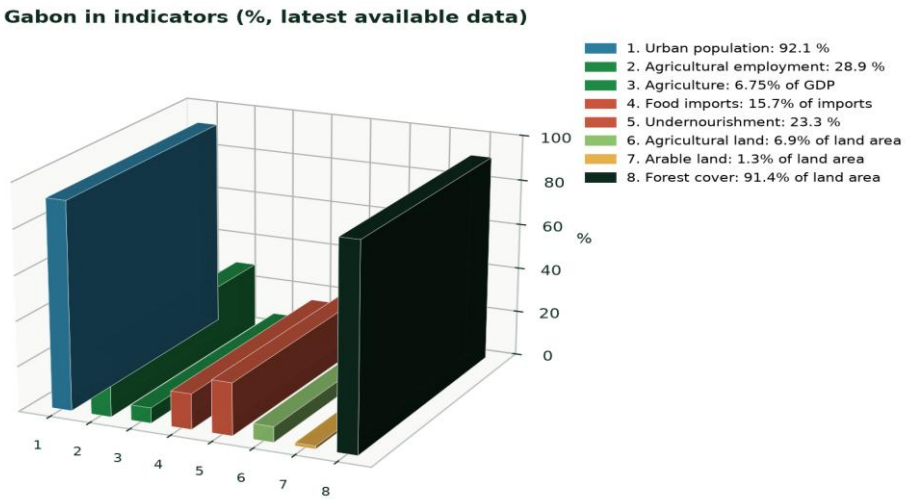


Figure 1. Percentage indicators, numbered as in the legend. Source: World Bank (WDI), latest values available in the World Bank database.

2.2 A rapidly growing population

According to the World Bank, the population rose from approximately 1.8 million inhabitants in 2013 to approximately 2.6 million in 2025. The 2026 census, validated by the Cour constitutionnelle according to the press, gives 3.52 million inhabitants: 2.32 million Gabonese and 1.2 million foreign nationals (first published results, according to the press). If this total is confirmed, the domestic market is larger than current estimates.

The detailed report by province has not been published in the sources consulted. This figure must therefore be confirmed before being used as a basis for calculation.

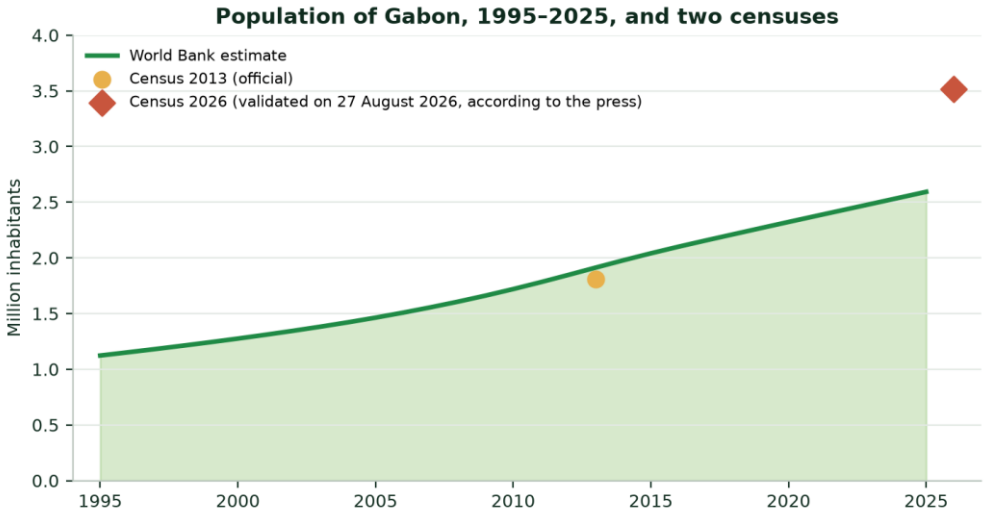


Figure 2. Population of Gabon: World Bank estimate and two censuses. Sources: World Bank; DGS (RGPL 2013); press on RGPL 2026.

2.3 Land use

Forest covers more than 91% of the territory. Agricultural land accounts for 6.9%, including 1.3% arable land. The issue is therefore not space, but the productivity of cultivated land and the supply of cities.

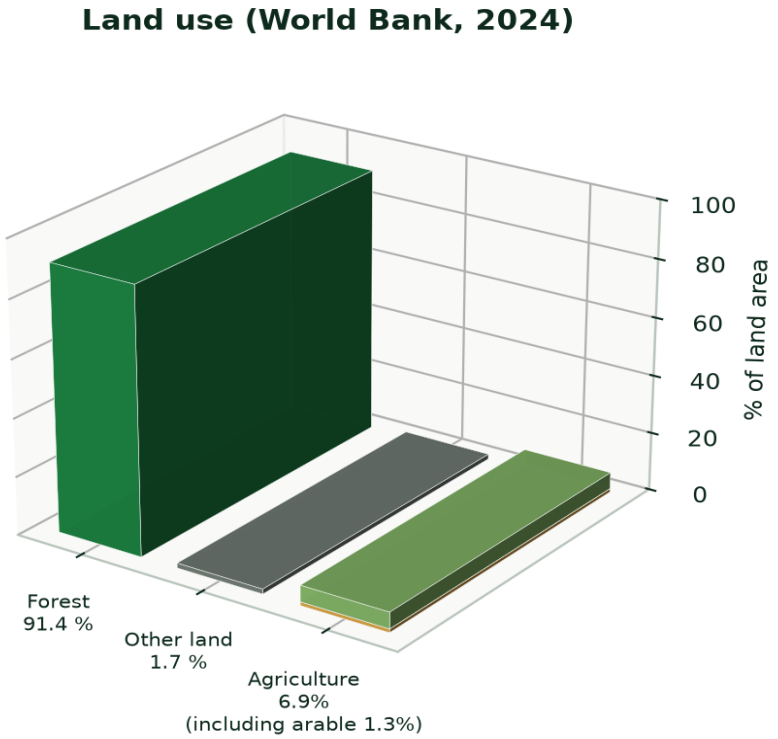


Figure 3. Land use in 2024. Source: World Bank (WDI). "Other land" is the difference from 100%.

2.4 Public policies: What the sources say

- **GRAINE**, a programme launched at the end of 2014: partnership between the State and Olam, managed by the company SOTRADER. The initial objectives (agriculture's share of GDP raised from 5 to 20% by 2020, food imports halved) are not shown to have been achieved in the sources consulted. The press mentions a reformulation of the programme in 2025 and 2026 (to be confirmed). Sources: Trésor (France); press.
- **Exemption** from import duties for agricultural inputs, including fertilisers, according to the press (section 6.2).

- **2026 budget**: According to the press, the 2026 supplementary finance bill reduces appropriations for agriculture, livestock and fisheries by approximately 72.4 billion FCFA, or approximately 53% of the initial allocation. To be confirmed in the enacted text.

3. Climate, soils and water

3.1 A dry season from June to August

In Libreville, the dry season runs from June to August. July is virtually rainless (1 mm). Rain returns in September and reaches its peak in October and November.

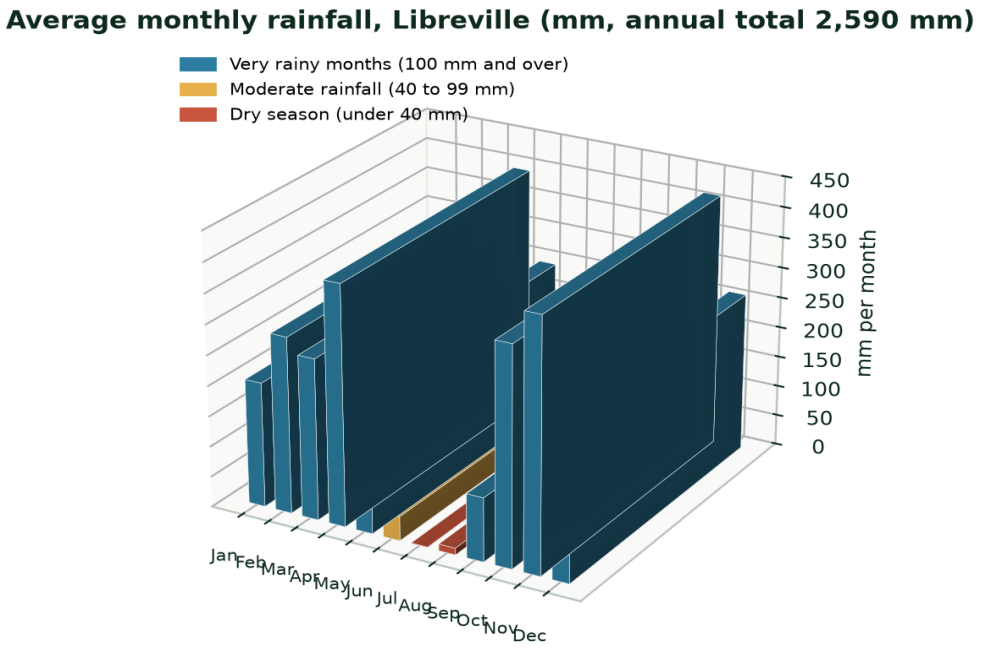


Figure 4. Average monthly rainfall in Libreville (mm). Source: Climatsetvoyages.com, monthly table; station and period not specified (level B). Annual total in this table: Approximately 2,590 mm.

The sources disagree on the annual total. The Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs cites approximately 1,600 to 1,800 mm for Libreville; a 2012 thesis cites nearly 3,000 mm. We retain the monthly table because it is the most complete in the sources consulted. The total must be confirmed with the national meteorological service (to be confirmed).

In Oyem, sources describe a dry season from June to August, with two rainy seasons: From March to May, then from September to November (level B). We found no detailed monthly table for Oyem.

3.2 Soils with poor water retention

Soils on plateaux and along the coast are often sandy or ferralitic, low in organic matter and acidic. They retain water and nutrients poorly. This finding comes from general literature on Central African soils: No soil analysis was carried out for this dossier. A soil analysis is the first step of the proposed pilot (part 10).

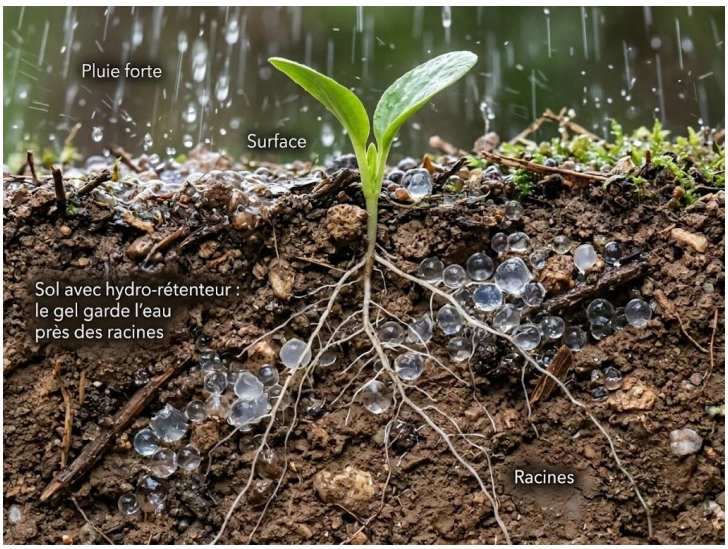


Figure 5. Principle of the water-retention agent: Rain, gel retaining water, roots. Educational illustration, not a measurement.

3.3 What this means for agriculture

- The constraint is not total annual rainfall, but water availability in the root zone during the dry season and after heavy rainfall.
- A water-retention agent does not compensate for an annual deficit. It may smooth out a few weeks of drought near the roots. This is a hypothesis to test, not an established fact.
- Heavy rainfall in October and November may carry fertilisers beyond the root zone. This is a hypothesis to be checked in the field (part 10).

4. The nine provinces

Gabon has nine provinces. The 2013 census is the latest to provide their detailed population. The 2026 census has not yet been published by province in the sources consulted. According to the press, Estuaire accounts for approximately 60 to 62% of the population.

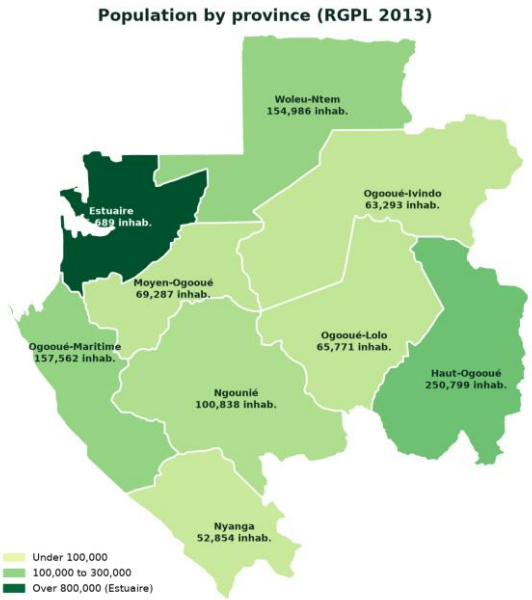


Figure 6. Population by province, RGPL 2013. Basemap: GeoBoundaries, CC BY-SA 3.0 licence; map derived for this dossier.

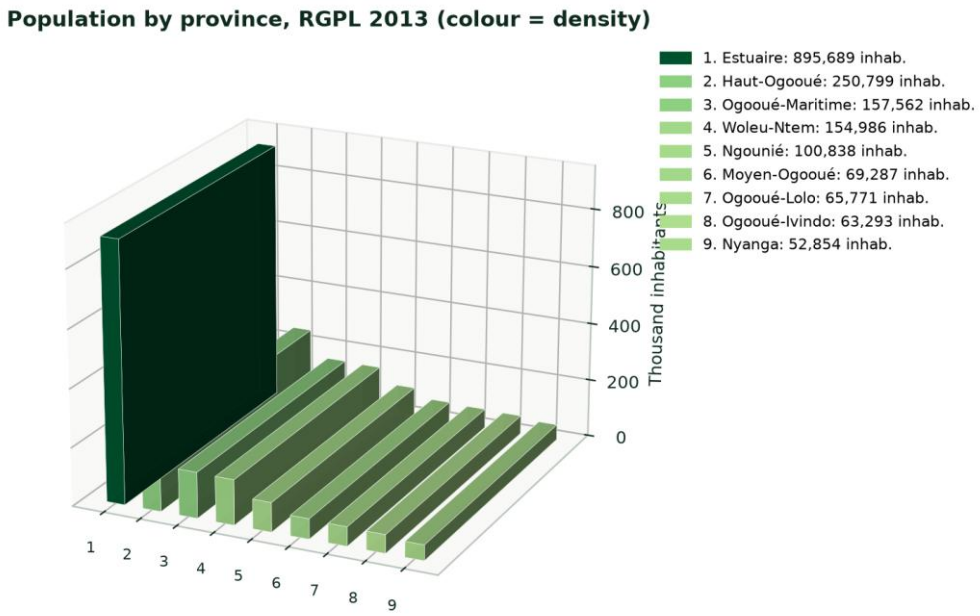


Figure 7. Population by province in 2013, numbered as in the legend. Colour: Density, from lightest (low) to darkest (high). Source: DGS, RGPL 2013, table 5.

4.1 Province table

Province	Capital	2013 population	Density (inhabitants/km²)	Agricultural references found (source)
Estuaire	Libreville	895,689	43.2	SIAT Gabon rubber plantations (WRM); Libreville urban markets.
Haut-Ogooué	Franceville	250,799	6.9	No provincial agricultural data found.
Ogooué-Maritime	Port-Gentil	157,562	6.9	Urban and oil hub; no provincial agricultural data found.
Woleu-Ntem	Oyem	154,986	4.0	Documented seasons (part 3); proposed pilot site.
Ngounié	Mouila	100,838	2.7	Olam Palm site in Mouila: 43,922 ha (2017 presentation).
Moyen-Ogooué	Lambaréné	69,287	3.7	Oil palm plantation at Makouké: 5,700 ha, including 1,500 ha in production (L'Union, 2018).
Ogooué-Lolo	Koulamoutou	65,771	2.6	No provincial agricultural data found.
Ogooué-Ivindo	Makokou	63,293	1.4	No provincial agricultural data found; dense forest.
Nyanga	Tchibanga	52,854	2.5	No provincial agricultural data found.

Sources: DGS, RGPL 2013, table 5 (population and density); WRM; The Forests Dialogue (2017); L'Union (2018).

4.2 Reading by zone

We have grouped the provinces into four zones for ease of reading. Sources do not give production by zone.

- **Coast and Estuaire** (Estuaire, Ogooué-Maritime): The highest urban demand. According to the press, more than six in ten inhabitants live in Estuaire.
- **North** (Woleu-Ntem, Ogooué-Ivindo): Dense forest and documented seasons. Oyem is proposed as the second pilot site.
- **Centre and South** (Moyen-Ogooué, Ngounié, Ogooué-Lolo, Nyanga): Industrial oil palm plantations are present in Mouila and Makouké.
- **East** (Haut-Ogooué): The second most populous province, with the urban hub of Franceville.

5. Crops, by type

Production statistics come from FAO, via Our World in Data, for the latest available year. They are national. Very low values (tomato, cocoa, coffee) must be checked.

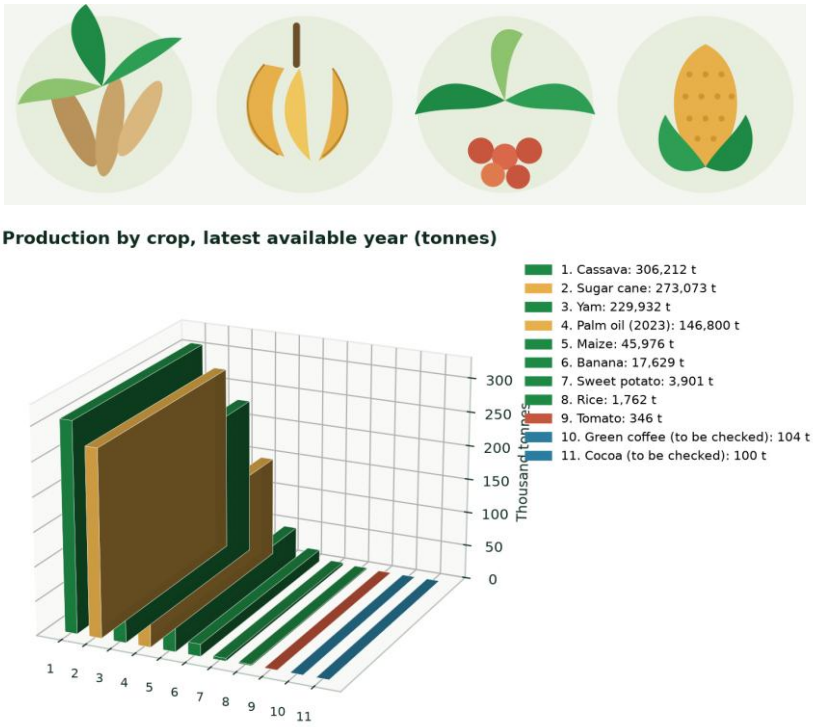


Figure 8. Production by crop, latest available year, numbered as in the legend. Colours: Green, food crops; yellow, industrial; red, market gardening; blue, perennial cash crops. Palm oil: 2023; cocoa and coffee: Values to be checked. Source: FAO via Our World in Data (CC BY 4.0).

5.1 Summary table

Crop	Type	2000 (t)	Latest value (t)	Interpretation
Cassava	Food crop	228,000	306,212 (2024)	Staple food; steady increase.
Yam	Food crop	158,000	229,932 (2024)	Second national root crop.
Sugar cane	Industrial	236,475	273,073 (2024)	Plantation crop.
Palm oil (crude)	Industrial	6,316	146,800 (2023)	More than twenty-fold increase since 2000.
Maize	Food crop	25,900	45,976 (2024)	Almost doubled since 2000.
Banana (dessert)	Fruit crop	12,000	17,629 (2024)	Plantain is not included in this series.
Sweet potato	Food crop	2,871	3,901 (2024)	Modest volume.
Rice	Cereal	1,000	1,762 (2024)	Very low production.
Tomato	Market gardening	280	346 (2024)	Probably underestimated.
Cocoa (beans)	Cash crop	500	100 (2024)	To be checked.
Green coffee	Cash crop	198	104 (2024)	To be checked.

5.2 Food crops: Cassava, yam, maize and banana

Cassava and yam remain the two leading food crops, and their volume has risen steadily since 2000. Cereal yield remains low: 1,587 kg per hectare in 2024 (World Bank). The increase in volumes therefore probably comes more from area than yields; this is an inference, not a measurement.



Pounded cassava. Free photo (Appendix C, photo 1).



Bunch of plantains. Free photo (Appendix C, photo 3).

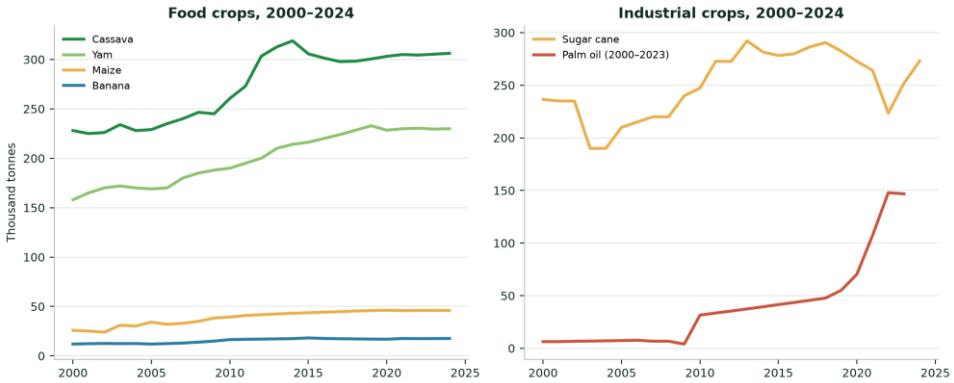


Figure 9. Production from 2000 to 2024 (thousands of tonnes). Source: FAO via Our World in Data; palm oil up to 2023.



Banana plantation. Free photo (Appendix C, photo 4).

5.3 Industrial: Sugar cane and oil palm

Palm oil production rose from approximately 6,300 t in 2000 to 146,800 t in 2023, with a sharp increase since 2010 (31,500 t). Two sites are documented: The Olam Palm Mouila block (Ngounié), and the SIAT Gabon Makouké site (Moyen-Ogooué), whose oil palm activity was taken over by Olam in 2016.

Oil palm plantations are an outlet for technical inputs, and their demand is concentrated: Trials are easier to conduct there on homogeneous blocks. We found no recent national area in the sources consulted.



Palm oil extracted from the fruit. Free photo (Appendix C, photo 5).



Oil palm fruit. Free photo (Appendix C, photo 6).

5.4 Market gardening and the urban market

National statistics report 346 tonnes of tomatoes in 2024. This figure seems very low given urban demand. It probably does not measure peri-urban market gardening, which is often informal. This is a hypothesis to be checked, and the proposed pilot measures precisely this production.



Peri-urban plot in the Melen district. Free photo (Appendix C, photo 2).

5.5 Cocoa and coffee: A long tradition, volumes to be checked

The cocoa and coffee volumes reported by FAO for 2024 (100 and 104 tonnes) seem very low in light of the country's history. They must be checked with the ministry before any decision.



Cocoa drying. Old photo, public domain (Appendix C, photo 8).



Cocoa plantation. Old photo, public domain (Appendix C, photo 9).

6. Fertilisers and inputs

6.1 Fertiliser use

In 2024, the World Bank estimates use at 50 kilograms of nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) per hectare of arable land. The figure is identical for 2023 and 2024: it is probably not up to date. Above all, it masks a major inequality: Large plantations use fertilisers, small plots use very little. We found no figure for the latter.

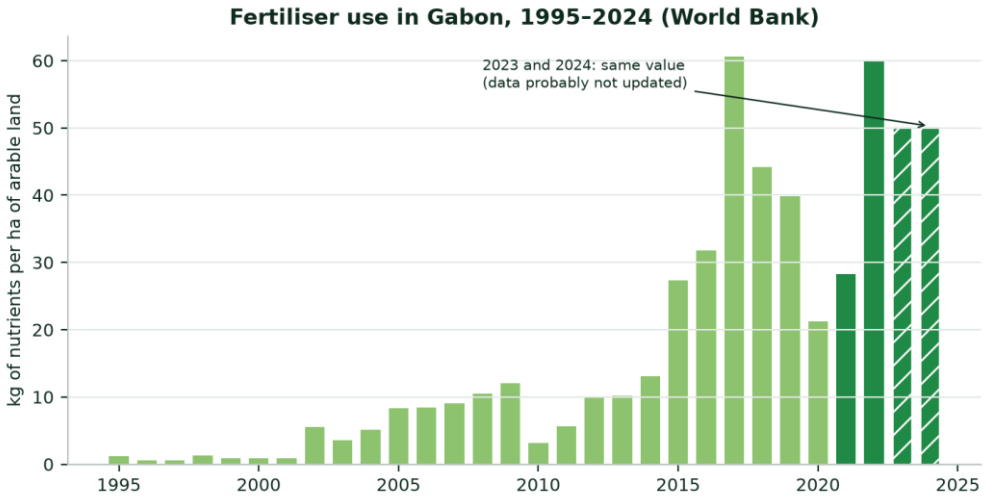


Figure 10. Fertilisers per hectare of arable land, 1995–2024. Source: World Bank (WDI), indicator AG.CON.FERT.ZS. Hatching indicates the two years with identical values.

6.2 Supply and support: What the sources say

- **2023**: 2,000 tonnes of fertiliser offered by Morocco, distributed to small producers through the OCP group (press, Le360). Allegations of diversion were reported, together with a ministry response (press).
- **Exemption**: A ministerial order, reported by the press, exempts agricultural inputs and equipment, including fertilisers, from import duties and taxes. The date and reference must be confirmed in the Journal officiel.
- **2026 budget**: See section 2.4.
- **Market**: We found neither the annual volume of fertiliser imports, nor the list of distributors, nor approved brands.

6.3 Our fertilisers

ECOFERT® is presented as a biological liquid fertiliser in microdoses, composed of free amino acids (8%) and total nitrogen (1.73%), certified SOHISCERT and EU Bio. EVERGREEN®, potassium-based, is presented as sodium-free. Their place in a fertilisation programme remains to be defined with an agronomic adviser.

What we do not yet know about fertilisers

- The regulatory classification of ECOFERT and EVERGREEN in Gabon: Fertiliser, soil conditioner or another category.
- Volumes and distribution channels for liquid fertilisers in Gabon.
- The actual effect of combining ECOSORB and ECOFERT on acidic, leached soils.

7. Regulatory framework

We searched for texts applying to Gabon, the CEMAC area and, for comparison, the ECOWAS area. The table distinguishes what we found from what we did not find.

Subject	What we found	Level	Action required
Plant protection products (CEMAC area)	UEAC Regulation 09/06 on pesticide trials, approval and importation; CPAC committee created in 2007. The copies consulted give different dates and numbers.	B	Obtain the official version and its application in Gabon.
Fertilisers (CEMAC area)	No specific text found on fertiliser approval or importation.	—	Ask the ministry for texts in force and the competent department.
Fertilisers (ECOWAS area)	Regulation C/REG.13/12/12 on fertiliser quality control. It does not apply to Gabon, which is not an ECOWAS member.	A	No action.
Agricultural inputs (customs)	Exemption reported by the press: Ministerial order, date not verified.	B	Reference in the Journal officiel.
Customs duties and VAT on our products	Not verified in this dossier. No rate is stated here.	—	Tariff classification (HS code) by customs services.
Biodegradability and toxicity	The website claims complete biodegradation and REACH screening. No standardised biodegradability test is published.	C	Provide standardised test reports and the safety data sheet.

Sources: CEMAC and ECOWAS texts identified on FAOLEX and digitised copies (level B for dates); Gabonese press for the exemption.

8. Our products: ECOSORB and fertilisers as priorities

8.1 ECOSORB®, priority product

ECOSORB® is a super-absorbent polymer based on maize starch. According to the website, it absorbs “about 300 times its weight” in water, and its effect lasts “2 to 3 years” in the soil. These are the manufacturer’s figures: We have not verified them.

- **Intended use**: Retain water close to the roots, at planting or establishment, for rainfed crops and market gardening.
- **Safety**: An acrylamide analysis was carried out by the Polymex laboratory in December 2024, according to the website. The full certificate must be obtained before being appended to a dossier.

- **Trials**: Ongoing in Guinea (maize, groundnuts), Tunisia (tomatoes), Corsica (olive trees, hazelnut trees), France (market gardening), Morocco (organic clementines, paulownia) and Madagascar (market gardening). No trial in Gabon.
- **What remains to be done**: A standardised biodegradability test, toxicity data and regulatory classification in Gabon.

8.2 Fertilisers: ECOFERT® and EVERGREEN®

ECOFERT® is a biological liquid fertiliser in microdoses. According to the website, it contains 8% free amino acids and 1.73% total nitrogen. It is SOHISCERT and EU Bio certified and, according to the website, used in 60 countries.

EVERGREEN® is a potassium-based water-retention agent, sodium-free according to the website. REACH / SVHC screening carried out by SGS in 2023 indicates that the 233 tested candidate-list substances are all below the 0.1% threshold by mass.

> **In the proposed pilot**
> • Treatment B: ECOFERT alone.
> • Treatment D: ECOSORB and ECOFERT together.
> • The dosage follows the manufacturer's recommendations, to be confirmed in the protocol.

8.3 Other products

- **NAPEMA®**: Crop protection without synthetic molecules, according to the website. All plant protection products must be approved before sale: Its status in Gabon must be checked before any use (part 7).
- **Paulownia ALTIFOLIA®**: Reforestation and windbreak tree. The website states 13 to 15 m in six to eight years. Its performance in Gabon is not documented here.
- **Water Vital®**: Presented for irrigation water, associated with our water-retention agents. No peer-reviewed study was found (literature search).

9. Trials and evidence

9.1 Trials documented on the website

Trial	What the document says	Limitation
Maize, Turkey (TIGEM)	Irrigation reduced by 39% (528 mm of water); yield increased by 17.1% at the dose of 74 kg/ha.	Only one plot per treatment: Indicative result.
Soybean, comparative trial (China)	Yield increased by 11.2 to 11.4% compared with the control without super-absorbent polymer.	Only one trial; climate and soil different from Gabon.
Date palms, United Arab Emirates (ICBA, 2021)	Document published on the website; results not included in this dossier.	Desert climate: Not transferable to Gabon without a local trial.

Sources: Documents published on the Green Solutions website (trials section, level C). The figures cited were checked in the documents themselves.

9.2 What these trials do not prove

- They do not concern Gabon: Neither its climate, its soils nor its crops.
- They involve few plots and, for some, only one plot per treatment.
- No peer-reviewed publication was found for our products (literature search).
- The website announces ongoing trials (section 1.3). To our knowledge, their results have not been published.

10. Proposed pilot in Gabon

10.1 Objective

Measure over one season, at two Gabonese sites, whether ECOSORB and ECOFERT improve plant establishment, crop survival and yield compared with usual practice. Also measure the required irrigation water and labour time.

10.2 The two sites

Site	Crops	Why this site
Site 1 · Libreville (Estuaire)	Peri-urban market gardening and cassava	More than half the country's population according to the press; dry season from June to August.
Site 2 · Oyem (Woleu-Ntem)	Cassava and plantain	Dense-forest province in the north, with a dry season from June to August; relations with cooperatives to be established.

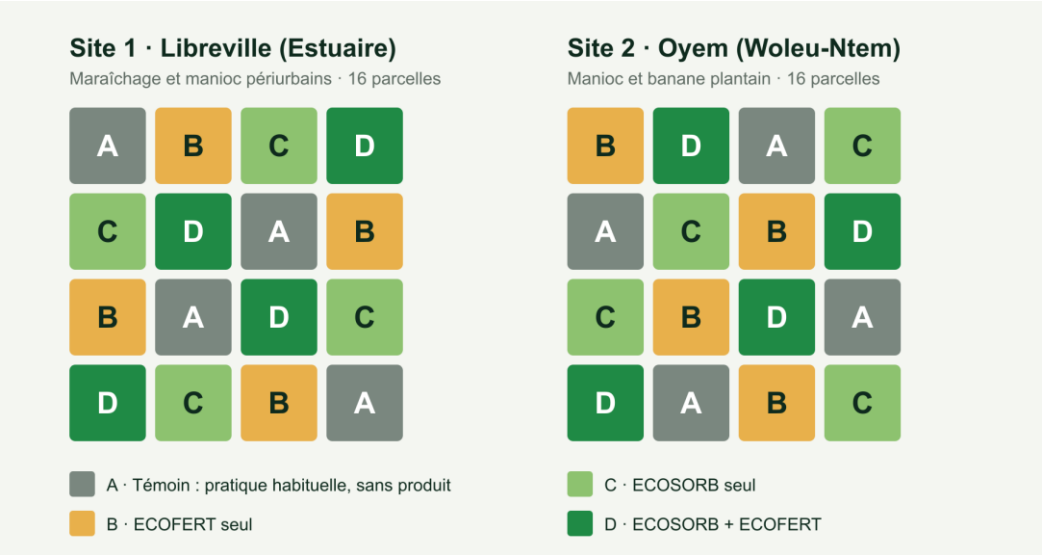


Figure 11. Proposed plan: Two sites, four treatments, 16 plots per site. The actual plot layout will be randomly drawn in the field.

10.3 Trial design

- **Four treatments**: A control (usual practice, without product); B ECOFERT alone; C ECOSORB alone; D ECOSORB and ECOFERT together.
- **Four replicates** per treatment, i.e. 16 plots per site and 32 in total. A reference plot is managed exactly like the others.
- **Measurements**: Plant establishment rate, soil moisture (probe or tensiometer), harvested yield, irrigation water volume, labour time.
- **Soil**: One analysis before the trial and one after, at each site.
- **Monitoring**: A written protocol, validated by the ministry, monitored by an independent body to be appointed.

10.4 Criteria and commitments

- Decision criteria (for example, a threshold for improvement in establishment rate or yield) are set before the trial, with the ministry.
- No price is proposed in this dossier. A budget will be established after agreement on sites and areas.
- Raw data are shared with the ministry and participating cooperatives.

11. Roadmap

Indicative dates, to be aligned with the actual agricultural calendar of the first season.

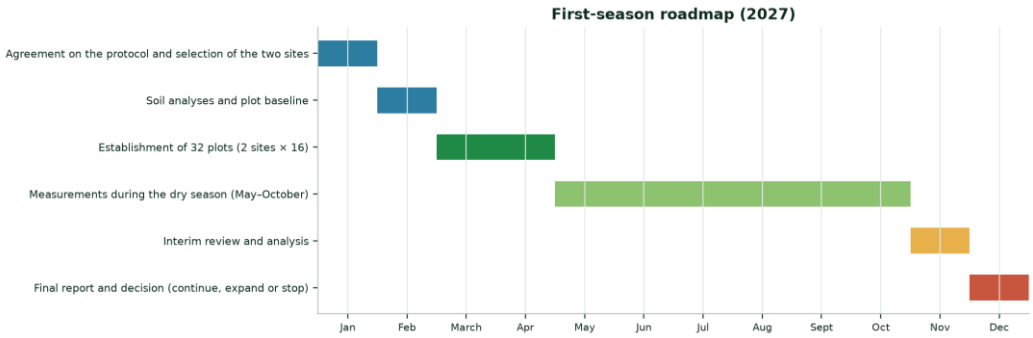


Figure 12. First-season roadmap. Measurements cover the dry season, from May to October.

- **End of January**: Protocol and sites accepted by the ministry.
- **End of February**: Soil analyses and plot baseline.
- **End of April**: 32 plots in place.
- **October**: End of measurements.
- **December**: Final report and decision (continuation, expansion or discontinuation).

12. Risks and limitations

Risk	What we do	Who decides
2026 population not detailed by province; figure to be confirmed	Present the two sources; use the official report once published.	Ministry responsible for the census
Incomplete national statistics (market gardening, cocoa, coffee)	Measure in the field during the pilot.	Ministry and monitoring body
Limited evidence for our products	Independent trial, written protocol, criteria set in advance.	Monitoring committee
Regulatory status of fertilisers and water-retention agents unknown in Gabon	Request texts and classification before any commercial use.	Ministry and inspection services
Logistics during the rainy season	Delivery arrangements to be defined with the local partner.	Green Solutions and the partner
Declining public agricultural budget (press)	Small-scale, measurable pilot, with controlled cost.	Ministry

13. Producer references

This section takes up the references from the previous commercial dossier on Gabon, updated. Figures are those of the manufacturer, unless stated otherwise.

13.1 Market at a glance

- A country of forest: Approximately 91% of the territory is covered by forest (World Bank).
- Cities: 92% of the population lives in urban areas (World Bank, 2025).
- Agriculture has little presence in GDP, 6.8% (World Bank, 2025), but accounts for nearly 29% of jobs.
- Imports: According to the press, approximately 80% of national consumption comes from abroad, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. Figure to be confirmed.
- Little cultivated land: 1.3% of the territory is arable land (World Bank, 2024).

13.2 The water constraint

The country receives plenty of rain, but it falls over a few months, and the dry season deprives roots of water. Water retention changes this: Water remains available near the root when rain stops. The previous dossier cites a UNCCD global figure: +29% droughts (number and duration) since 2000 compared with 1980–1999. This figure has not been rechecked for this dossier.

13.3 Sectors

- **Cassava and plantain**: The staple foods, grown mainly on small rainfed plots (part 5).
- **Peri-urban market gardening around Libreville**: Fresh produce, whose production is not measured (section 5.4).
- **Industrial plantations** (oil palm, sugar cane, rubber): Monitored estates, where a trial is assessed on a homogeneous block.

13.4 Range and prices

- **NAPEMA®**: Crop protection without synthetic molecules, according to the manufacturer.
- **Paulownia ALTIFOLIA®**: Plants delivered in 25 to 30 cm pots. Timber is valued at around **400 to 450 € per m³**, according to the previous commercial dossier. First cutting at the end of the sixth year. This price is a reference, not an offer.
- **Dosage**: The manufacturer's rule is 3 g of water-retention agent per litre of useful soil. The dosage for a crop is set in the trial protocol.

13.5 Three priority areas

- **Estuaire, Libreville**: Nearly 900,000 inhabitants in the 2013 census, an everyday urban market.
- **Woleu-Ntem, Oyem**: Presented as an important food-production basin in the previous dossier (to be checked). Second proposed pilot site.
- **Ngounié, Mouila**: The Olam Palm oil-palm block in Mouila, 43,922 ha according to a 2017 presentation.

13.6 How we proceed

- **Diagnosis**: Analysis of soil, irrigation method and crop. No commitment at this stage.
- **Control plot**: A comparative trial on one block, with a control plot managed identically.
- **Measurement**: Establishment, water consumption and yield, during the dry season.
- **Expansion**: Gradual roll-out based on observed results.

13.7 What must be anticipated

- A small domestic market in terms of farm numbers: Concentrate initial volumes on large plantations and peri-urban market-gardening cooperatives.
- Difficult domestic logistics during the rainy season: Group orders and plan a buffer stock in Libreville.
- A little-known product, sometimes confused with sodium-based polymers: Document the potassium formulation of EVERGREEN, sodium-free.
- Acrylamide analyses (Polymex) and REACH / SVHC screening (SGS) are available on request. The SOHISCERT certificate is valid (expiry date stated on the certificate).

The yield-gain and water-saving ranges in the previous dossier are not repeated: They have no field source in Gabon.

Appendix A. Sources

Sources consulted online. The years cited are those of the data.

No.	Source	Reference or link
1	World Bank, WDI indicators for Gabon (population, urbanisation, GDP, agriculture, land, fertilisers, employment, undernourishment).	api.worldbank.org, indicators SP.POP.TOTL, SP.URB.TOTL.IN.ZS, NV.AGR.TOTL.ZS, TM.VAL.FOOD.ZS.UN, AG.LND.ARBL.ZS, AG.LND.AGRI.ZS, AG.LND.FRST.ZS, AG.CON.FERT.ZS, AG.YLD.CREL.KG, NY.GDP.PCAP.CD, SL.AGR.EMPL.ZS, SN.ITK.DEFC.ZS
2	FAO, production statistics, via Our World in Data (CC BY 4.0 licence). FAOSTAT was not directly accessible at the time of consultation.	ourworldindata.org/grapher/cassava-production (and yam, maize, rice, sugar cane, banana, palm oil, cocoa, coffee, sweet potato, tomato)
3	Direction générale de la statistique (Gabon), General Population and Housing Census 2013, table 5, publication of October 2015. Copy hosted by UNFPA Gabon.	gabon.unfpa.org (file “Résultats globaux RGPL”)
4	GabonReview, “RGPL 2026: 3.5 million inhabitants, the major demographic leap that calls for explanations” (press).	gabonreview.com/rgpl-2026-35-millions-dhabitants-le-grand-bond-demographique-qui-demande-des-explications/
5	GabonReview, first RGPL 2026 results (nationality).	gabonreview.com/35-millions-dhabitants-en-2026-au-gabon-pres-dun-habitant-sur-trois-est-de-nationalite-etrangere/
6	Gabon Media Time, “2026 census: Gabon now has 3.5 million inhabitants”; “RGPL 2026: nearly 60% of the population concentrated in Estuaire”.	gabonmediatime.com/recensement-2026-le-gabon-compte-desormais-35-millions-dhabitants/; gabonmediatime.com/rgpl-2026-pres-de-60-de-la-population-gabonaise-concentree-dans-lestuaire/
7	climatsetvoyages.com, Libreville monthly rainfall table (station and period not specified).	climatsetvoyages.com/climat/gabon/libreville
8	Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, travel advice: Gabon climate (annual totals cited).	diplomatie.belgium.be (page “climat et catastrophes au Gabon”)
9	ou-et-quand.net, Libreville monthly averages (comparison source, higher totals).	ou-et-quand.net/partir/quand/afrique/gabon/libreville/
10	The Forests Dialogue, Olam Palm Gabon presentation (2017): Sites and areas.	theforestsdialogue.org (tfd_udf_gabon_olampalm_presentation_2017.pdf)
11	L’Union (Gabon), 23 January 2018: Makouké site (SIAT Gabon).	lunion-archives.org (N12630-23-01-2018-005)
12	World Rainforest Movement, notes on SIAT Gabon, AgroGabon and HévéGab.	wrm.org.uy/print/pdf/node/10802/fr
13	Gabon Media Time, exemption from duties for agricultural inputs (date to be confirmed).	gabonmediatime.com (intrants et matériel agricole exonérés de taxes)
14	Le360 (Morocco), Moroccan fertiliser donation to Gabon, 2023.	afrique.le360.ma (fertiliser, donation from King Mohammed VI)
15	GabonReview, 2026 supplementary finance bill and agriculture.	gabonreview.com (72 billion less for agriculture, PLFR 2026)
16	Trésor (French Ministry for the Economy and Finance), profile of the GRAINE programme.	tresor.economie.gouv.fr/Pays/GA/le-programme-graine
17	CEMAC, regulation on pesticides and creation of the CPAC committee (digitised copy); FAOLEX record.	sgg.cg (CEMAC-Reglement-2007-11-creation-comite-pesticides-cpac.pdf); faolex.fao.org (ecc147661)
18	ECOWAS, Regulation C/REG.13/12/12 on fertiliser quality control (reference identified on FAOLEX).	faolex.fao.org (text to be located)
19	Wikipedia (en), “Provinces of Gabon”: National area (267,668 km²).	en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provinces_of_Gabon
20	geoBoundaries, Gabon administrative boundaries (level 1), CC BY-SA 3.0 licence.	geoboundaries.org
21	Green Solutions, website (product sheets, ongoing trials, trial documents).	green-solutions-group.com/fr; documents /documents/field-tests/ (mais-turquie-tigem, soja-super-absorbant, palmiers-emirats-uae-icba-2021)
22	Wikimedia Commons, free photographs (details in Appendix C).	commons.wikimedia.org
23	UNCCD, Drought in Numbers 2022: global figure on droughts, taken from the previous commercial dossier (not rechecked).	unccd.int
24	Previous commercial dossier on Gabon (version replaced by this document): Market references, sectors, producer range and prices (part 13).	public/documents/countries/gabon.pdf (old version)

Appendix B. Confidence levels and method

Level	Definition	Examples in this dossier
A	Official statistic or international institution, with its date.	World Bank, RGPL 2013, FAO, ECOWAS text.
B	Press or secondary source. The figure must be confirmed before a decision.	2026 census, input exemption, tourist climate table.
C	Manufacturer website or documentation. Declarative figure, not independently verified.	Product performance, ongoing trials, ECOFERT composition.

Method

We consulted public databases (World Bank, FAO via Our World in Data), the Gabonese press, CEMAC and ECOWAS texts, and the manufacturer's website. Some online sources were read only in excerpts: This is indicated in the relevant source.

Provincial areas are not given: Only official populations and densities are included. The only calculations made are simple conversions (for example, the sum of monthly rainfall and percentages).

Appendix C. Photo and illustration credits

The photos below are under free licences; each author is cited. The charts are original.

No.	Photo (file title)	Author	Licence	File page
01	Tubercules de manioc pilées.jpg	Estrella230	CC BY 4.0	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3ATubercules_de_manioc_pil%C3%A9es.jpg
02	Plantation au quartier Melen.jpg	Estrella230	CC BY 4.0	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3APlantation_au_quartier_Melen.jpg
03	Régime de banane plantain.jpg	Estrella230	CC BY-SA 4.0	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3AR%C3%A9gime_de_banane_plantain.jpg
04	Plantation de banane du Camp de Gendarmerie.jpg	Estrella230	CC BY-SA 4.0	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3APlantation_de_banane_du_Camp_de_Gendarmerie.jpg
05	Huile de palme extrait de noix.jpg	DiHM	CC BY-SA 4.0	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3AHuile_de_palme_extrait_de_noix.jpg
06	Noix de palmiers.jpg	Le Plurilingue	CC BY-SA 4.0	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3ANoix_de_palmiers.jpg
08	Gabon-Séchage du cacao à l'île des Perroquets.jpg	Unknown authorUnknown author	Public domain	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3AGabon-S%C3%A9chage_du_cacao_%C3%A0_l%27%C3%AEle_des_Perroquets.jpg
09	Plantation européenne de cacaoyers au Gabon - C. Chalot - btv1b10102476q.jpg	Chalot, Ch. Photographe	Public domain	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3APlantation_europ%C3%A9enne_de_cacaoyers_au_Gabon_-_C._Chalot_-_btv1b10102476q.jpg

Illustrations: Icons and pilot plan, original drawings by Green Solutions; cover, soil diagram and market photograph: Images supplied by Green Solutions.

Data: World Bank (open licence); FAO via Our World in Data (CC BY 4.0); DGS (RGPL 2013). **Basemap**: GeoBoundaries (CC BY-SA 3.0), derived map.

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