# Perspectives on Biosecurity in Ghana's Forests

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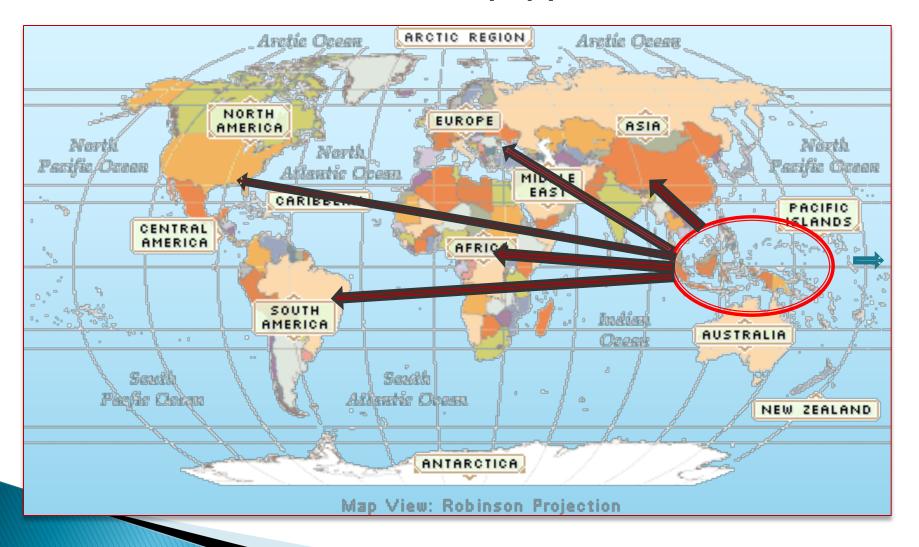
#### What is Biosecurity?

- The term "Biosecurity" as used by FAO encompasses all policy and regulatory frameworks to manage risks, including relevant environmental risks, which are associated with food and agriculture, fisheries and forestry.
- A related term, 'biosafety', is used in the Cartegena Biosafety Protocol, where it specifically refers to the release and cross-boundary movement of living modified organisms (LMOs).
- Biosecurity is about RISK MANAGEMENT

## What is the level of risk to Forest Resources of Ghana?

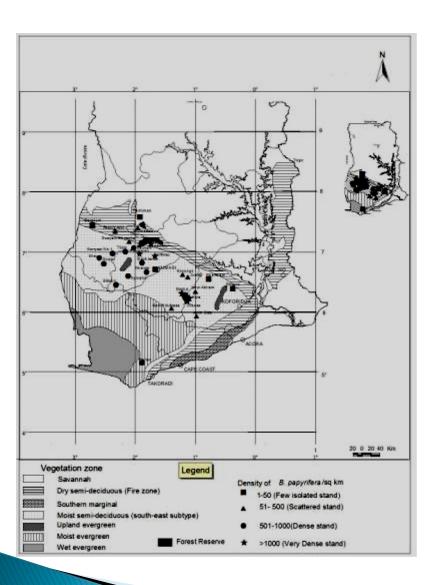
- Quite a difficult question to answer:
  - Low, if compared to temperate forests (North America)
  - Considerable, if viewed within the context of recent occurrences and from historical perspectives
  - High, if recent investments in plantation development are considered

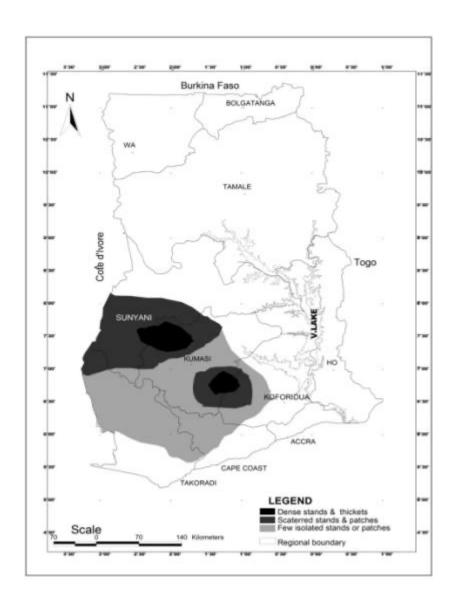
#### Occurrence of Broussonetia papyrifera world wide



#### In Africa...





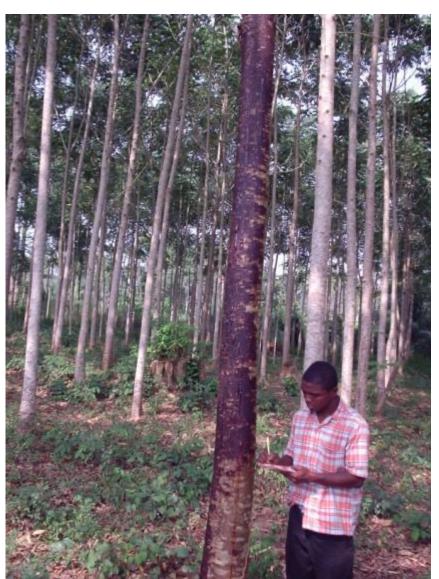




#### Cedrela stem canker

- Anhwiaso South F.R.
- Worobong South F.R.
- Afram Headwaters
- Mesewam nursery





#### Teak Dieback





#### Teak disease - Opro F.R. (2008)









#### Kwamisa F.R. (2008)





# THE WRITINGS ARE ALREADY ON THE WALL



### Caterpillars ravage Liberia (BBC New: January 2009)

Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf has declared a state of emergency in response to a plague of mysterious crop-destroying caterpillars. The invaders were thought at first to be armyworms – but field investigators have now cast serious doubt on this diagnosis. So what exactly are these creatures and what can be done

to halt them?

And today 2022?







#### Way forward

- Consider the significance of forest pest protection in all forest management operations, projects and programmes
- More forest protection experts
- Routine forest health monitoring
- Education, sensitization and engagement of tree growers/ communities on pest issues
- More support research into pest management

#### THANK YOU