



global witness

Cameroon

Project of Independent Observation in Support  
of Forest Law Enforcement in Cameroon

**Approved by the Ministry of  
the Environment and Forests**

**Report No. 017 En**

*Joint mission: Central Control Unit – Independent Observer*

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**Title:** FMU 10-057

**Location:** East Province

**Mission date:** July 17 - 21, 2002

**Companies:** MBENG GUSTAVE - SFH

**Independent Observer (Global Witness):**

Mr. Albert K. Barume, Deputy Director

Mr. Serge C. Moukouri, Forester

Mr. Tangye C. Celestine, Driver

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# 1. SUMMARY

The Central Control<sup>1</sup> Unit (CCU), accompanied by the Independent Observer (Global Witness), undertook a mission within FMU 10 057 from July 17 to 21, 2002. In accordance with instructions from the Minister of the Environment and Forests, the aim of the mission was to carry out an assessment of this FMU, which has not been logged since 2001.

FMU 10 057 is currently allocated to '*Ingénierie Forestière*'. Before being classified as a FMU, it had been successively logged by *Société Forestière et Industrielle de la Doumé* (SFID) and by SOTREF. Mr. Mbeng Gustave was the first beneficiary of the registered logging title to FMU 10 057, which he then appears to have sub-contracted to *Société Forestière Hazim* (SFH).

After a complete tour of the FMU and an examination of various documents put together in the field, the Independent Observer concluded the following:

A volume of **39,786 m<sup>3</sup>** of wood, originating from both unauthorised logging of some species according to valid ACP certificates and also an overlogging of authorised species, was illegally felled in FMU 10 057 over the course of the 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 years. This act incurs the criminal, civil and administrative liability of Mr. Mbeng Gustave, as holder of the title, along with *Société Forestière Hazim* (SFH), which appears to have acted as sub-contractor.

In view of the above, **the Independent Observer recommends:**

1. The summoning of Mr. Mbeng Gustave to make a statement for a report to be issued with regard to logging in excess of the volumes allocated to FMU 10 057 for the years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000;

As holder of this logging title, Mr. Mbeng Gustave could be held responsible for the offence of “unauthorised forest exploitation in a State or Council forest.... without prejudice to damages for timber exploited....” (Article 158 of the 1994 law);

2. That should it be proven that Mr. Mbeng Gustave had indeed sub-contracted his logging activities in FMU 10 057 to SFH, the legal notification made out against him (Mr. Mbeng Gustave) should also hold SFH jointly responsible for the same offence;

3. That a further mission be organised to undertake a full inventory of all the wood illegally cut, due to regrowth of the forest cover in the area of logging.

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<sup>1</sup> “Control” in the context of this report means “Law Enforcement” or to “check compliance with law”.

## 2. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION

The mission comprised two CCU officials, the Head of Forest Law Enforcement Provincial Brigade for the East Province, one representative from the Kadey Departmental Delegation and two members of the Independent Observer technical team.

## 3. RESOURCES USED

- 1 4x4 pick-up truck
- 1 Yamaha 100 motor bike
- 2 Garmin GPS
- 1 video camera
- 1 Sony laptop computer

## 4. CONSTRAINTS

The mission was unable to find maps showing the boundaries of ACP 2 and 10, allocated to Mr. Mbeng Gustave during the years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000. In addition, the team was unable to confirm the logging titles that had been granted prior to the classification of this forest as a FMU.

## 5. OBSERVATIONS

### 5.1. BRIEF HISTORY OF LOGGING IN FMU 10 057

Prior to 1994, part of the current FMU 10 057 was logged under the system of 'Licenses'<sup>2</sup> by *Société Forestière et Industrielle de la Doumé* (SFID), belonging to the *Groupe Rougier* (see Appendix No1).

Shortly after the FMU was formed, this forest (FMU 10 057) was allocated to Mr. Mbeng Gustave, as confirmed by the Provisional Logging Agreement (*Convention Provisoire d'Exploitation - CPE*) of the 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1998. From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Mbeng Gustave then appears to have sub-contracted the logging of ACP 2 and 10 of this FMU to the SFH company (see Appendix 2).

A report produced by Mr. Luc Durrieu, on behalf of the Technical Committee for Monitoring of Economic Programmes (*Comité Technique de Suivi des Programmes Economiques*), indicates that ACPs 2 and 10 of FMU 10 057 were never physically demarcated (see Appendix No. 2).

This FMU has not been logged since 2000-2001.

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<sup>2</sup> Licence: Logging title granted for a renewable period of five years and which gives its holder the right to log exclusively aimed for export or for local processing subject to restrictions on some species as a consequence of the current forestry regulations or the contractual conditions (Law No 81-13 of 27 November 1981 and Decree 83-169 of the 12<sup>th</sup> April 1983 on the system of forests, fauna and fishing).

## ***5.2 OBSERVATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT OBSERVER***

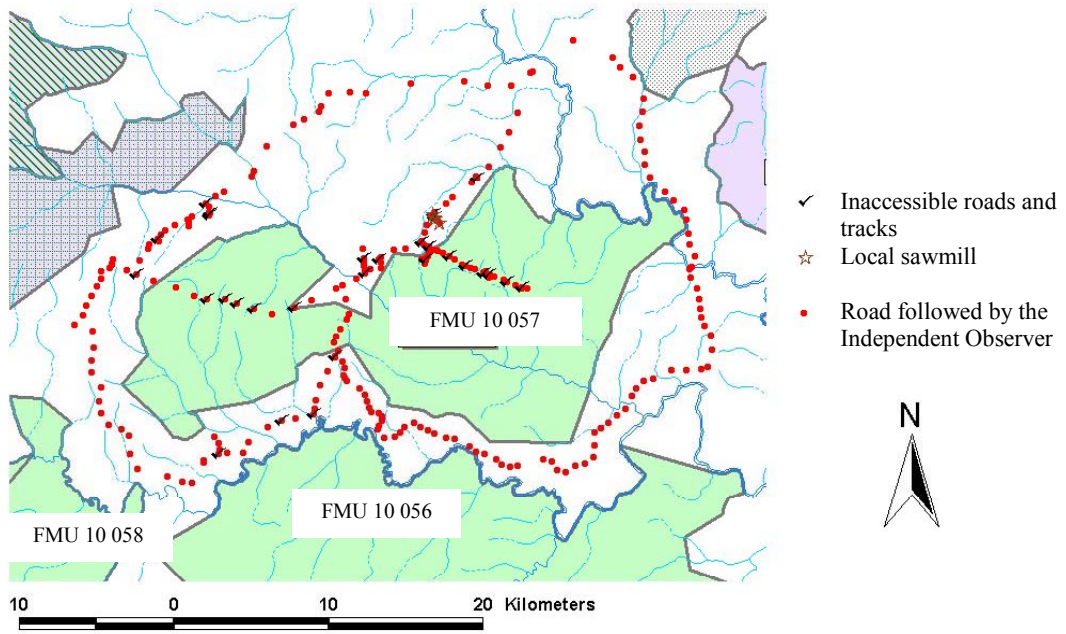
### **a)- Inaccessibility of FMU 10 057 and its exploitation by unauthorised small-scale chainsaw operators:**

Given that the plant cover has regrown in the logging area, the Independent Observer had to undertake a full tour of the FMU in search of other practicable tracks and access routes (see photo 1 and map below).



**Photo 1: Plant cover at an access route entry point into FMU 10 057**

## Inaccessible roads and tracks in and around FMU 10 057



## b) – Overlogging of ACP 2 and 10 in FMU 10 057

It emerges from investigations undertaken by the Independent Observer that FMU 10 057 was overlogged by an amount of more than **39,786 m<sup>3</sup>** during the course of the years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000. In fact, there was an overlogging of certain species, such as Ayous/Obeche and Fraké, plus logging of unauthorised species, such as Bassam Acajou and Red Doussié.

A total of more than 7,365m<sup>3</sup> of wood was illegally logged in FMU 10 057 during the 1998-1999 year (see table 1 below). This conclusion is the result of a comparison between, on the one hand, the volumes authorised by Annual ACP Certificate No. 2, for the 1998-1999 year (Appendix No. 3) and, on the other, the volumes indicated on the SIGIF<sup>3</sup> form for compiling DF10<sup>4</sup> data for the same year (Appendix No. 3).

Table 1

Species	Volume authorised in m <sup>3</sup>	Volume logged in m <sup>3</sup>	Surplus in m <sup>3</sup>
Bassam Acajou	0	107	107
Bossé foncé	0	70	70
Red Doussié	0	83	83
Ayous/Obeche	2900	10005	7 105
Total			<b>7 365</b>

Similarly, a surplus of 32,421m<sup>3</sup> of wood was illegally logged from FMU 10 057 during the 1999-2000 year (see table 2 below). As in the first case, this observation results from a comparison of the volumes indicated on the SIGIF forms for compiling DF10 data for the year 1999-2000 and the volumes allocated by CAAC No. 10 for the same year (see Appendix No 4).

Table 2

Species	Volume authorised en m <sup>3</sup>	Volume logged in m <sup>3</sup>	Surplus in m <sup>3</sup>
Bassam Acajou	0	23	23
Red Doussié	0	11	11
Tali	1100	2425	1 325
Tali Yaoundé	0	11	11
Aiélé/Abel	0	70	70
Aningré R	0	7	7
Ayous	3900	30158	26 258
Eyong	613	1172	559
Fraké	2500	5894	3 394
Lotofa/Nkanang	468	852	384
Andok	0	6	6
Ilomba	1300	1673	373
Total			<b>32 421</b>

<sup>3</sup> SIGIF - *Système Informatique de Gestion de l'Information Forestière* - Computer System for Forestry Information Management.

<sup>4</sup> DF10: Name of the code given to the sheets of the site booklet in which the logging company must record information on the trees felled on a daily basis (diameter at 1.30m from ground level, felling number, length of logs, diameter at top and bottom, volume, date of felling).

All volumes logged in excess of those authorised constitutes an offence of “unauthorised forest exploitation in a State of Council forest...without prejudice to damages for timber exploited...”, as provided for by Article 158 of the 1994 forestry law.

For this offence, Mr. Gustave Mbeng and possibly *Société Forestière Hazim* (SFH) are liable to criminal (fines and/or a prison sentence), civil (damage and interests as provided for by article 159 of the 1994 forestry law) and administrative (suspension and/or withdrawal of logging titles, provided for by articles 130 to 133 of Decree of the 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1995) penalties.

## **6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT OBSERVER:**

The mission enabled the Independent Observer to conclude that FMU 10 057 was overlogged by an amount of **39,786 m<sup>3</sup>**, during the periods 1998-1999 and 1999-2000. This forestry unit has, in addition, been subjected to small-scale chainsaw operations.

In view of the above, and given the absence of any open case against those alleged responsible for the illegal logging in question, **the Independent Observer recommends:**

**1.** The summoning of Mr. Mbeng Gustave to make a statement for a report to be issued with regard to logging in excess of the volumes allocated to FMU 10 057 for the years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000;

As holder of this logging title, Mr. Mbeng Gustave could be held responsible for the offence of “unauthorised logging in a State forest...without prejudice to damage and interest for woods logged...” (Article 158 of the 1994 law);

**2.** That should it be proven that Mr. Mbeng Gustave had indeed sub-contracted his logging activities in FMU 10 057 to SFH, the legal notification made out against him (Mr. Mbeng Gustave) should also hold SFH jointly responsible for the same offence of « unauthorised logging in a State forest...without prejudice to damage and interest for woods logged...”, as provided for by Article 158 of the 1994 forestry law;

**3.** That a further mission be organised to undertake a full inventory of all the wood illegally cut, due to regrowth of the forest cover in the area of logging.

For this offence, Mr. Gustave Mbeng and possibly *Société Forestière Hazim* (SFH) will incur criminal (fines and/or a prison sentence), civil (damage and interests provided for by article 159 of the 1994 forestry law) and administrative (suspension and/or withdrawal of logging titles, provided for in articles 130 to 133 of Decree of the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1995) penalties.



## **Appendices**

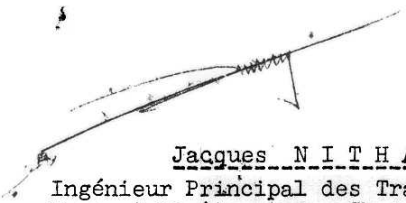
# Appendix 1

MINISTERE DE L'AGRICULTURE  
\*\*\*\*\*  
DELEGATION PROVINCIALE DE L'EST  
\*\*\*\*\*  
CONSERVATION DES FORETS L'EST  
\*\*\*\*\*  
BP. 7 BERTOUA  
\*\*\*\*\*

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN  
Paix-Travail-Patrie  
---ooQooo---

R A P P O R T   A N N U E L  
DE LA CONSERVATION DES FORETS DE L'EST ACTIVITES  
DE L'EXERCICE 1985 - 1986

PRESENTE PAR LE CONSERVATEUR DES  
FORETS DE L'EST



Jacques N I T H A  
Ingénieur Principal des Travaux des  
Eaux et Forêts et des Chasses.

KADEY	: BATOURI	: 1760	: 47.800	: 07.12.83	: 06.12.88	: -"
ALICAM						
SEBC	: KAGNOL	: 1746	: 41.900	: 17.09.82	: 16.09.87	: -"
-"	: -"	: 1564	: 71.000	: 03.10.77	: 02.10.82	: abandonnée
SPID	: MBANG	: 1752	: 57.060	: 30.09.83	: 29.09.88	: en cours d'ex- ploitation
-"	: BATOURI	: 1551	: 66.400	: 25.09.79	: 24.09.84	: renouvelle- ment sollicité
CPM	: MBANG	: 1566	: 67.000	: 20.12.79	: 19.12.84	: -"
GRUMCAM	: MINDOUROU	: 1552	: 48.600	: 10.03.80	: 09.03.85	: renouvelle- ment sollicité
		: 1562	: 80.800	: -"	: -"	
EFC	: KAGNOL	: 1554	: 82.850	: 07.79	: 08.84	: -"
POBER	: KAGNOL	: 1706	: 24.850	: 10.08.79	: 09.08.83	: -"
SPIS	: MOLOUNDOU	: 1537	: 93.000	: 11.06.69	: 10.06.84	: Ren. sollici- té
SEFAC	: LIBONGO	: 1582	: 99.500			: -"
SIBAF	: -"	: 1548	: 20.940	: 23.05.83	: 22.09.88	: exploitation en cours
	: (KIKI)	: 1568	: 174.916	: 20.12.79	: 18.12.89	: -"
SOTREF	: MOLOUNDOU	: 1547	: 48.000	: 04.04.84	: 03.04.89	: -"
SEBC	: LOKOMO	: 1578	: 91.325	: 82	: 87	: -"
WOREC	: -"	: 1530	: 87.360			: -"
		: 31	: 1.976.211			

La SAPOK a obtenu un permis de gré à gré n° 589 d'une superficie de 2092 ha situé dans le Bloc KEBE.

## Appendix 2

**République du Cameroun  
Comité Technique de Suivi des programmes économiques**

<p><b>REVUE TECHNIQUE DES CONCESSIONS FORESTIERES</b></p>
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**Luc DURRIEU de MADRON  
Jean NGAHA**

**Rapport final**

4 Août 2000

## UFA 10.057

### 1. Références

Titulaire : Mbeng G.  
Surface : 32 293 ha  
Date signature CPE : 27 mars 1998  
Partenariat informel : Hazim  
Montant soumission : Offre financière de 1500 Fcfa/an

Usines : aucune usine

Obligations du cahier des charges :

- Scierie complète tel que défini dans le dossier de soumission.
- Séchoir dont la capacité sera au moins égale au quart de la production transformée.

### 2. Exploitation

UFA déjà exploitée par la SFID et la SOTREF, à moitié composée de savane, finie d'être exploitée à grande vitesse par Hazim (?) en tant que partenaire.

- Assiettes de coupe octroyées : 2 et 10 mais aucune matérialisation effectuée ni inventaire
- Infractions : aucun des travaux obligatoires de la convention provisoire d'exploitation n'a été réalisé
- Sanctions : exclu aux prochains appels d'offre, UFA retirée.

### 3. Préparation de l'aménagement

- Inventaire d'aménagement : non
- Plan d'aménagement : non
- Méthodologie : -
- Résultats : -

### 4. Mesures additionnelles

- Réduction du braconnage : -
- Protection de la biodiversité :

## Appendix 3

Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts - Direction des Forêts

### Certificat d'Assiette annuelle de coupe (copie)

Convention provisoire d'exploitation



**Concession:** 1024      **Exercice:** 1998-1999      **Fin de validité:** 30 juin, 1999  
**Exploitant:** 409      MBENG Gustave      **Certificat émis le:** Monday, April 26, 1999

B.P. 20301 Yaoundé

#### Partie 1. Localisation des traitements sylvicoles:

Commune					Traitements sylvicoles		
N°	Appellation	Zone	Ufa	Assiette	Code	Appellation	Superficie
100301	Batouri	03	10-057	2	10	Coupe à diamètre limite	2,500
<b>Superficie totale:</b>							2,500

\* Les cartes forestières jointes à la demande montrent la localisation précise de l'assiette de coupe autorisée

#### Partie 2. Essences à récolter

Assiette No: 2							
Essence				Essence			
Code	Appellation	Nombre	Volum	Code	Appellation	Nombre	Volum
1104	Assamela	183	1,830	1106	Bété	122	610
1107	Bossé clair	102	1,020	1111	Dibétou	110	1,320
1112	Doussié blanc	64	384	1116	Iroko	196	2,352
1122	Mukulungu	18	180	1127	Padouk rouge	228	1,596
1129	Sapelli	188	2,256	1130	Sipo	151	2,114
1131	Tali	284	3,408	1135	Tiama	72	720
1211	Ayous/Obéché	290	2,900	1218	Eyong	154	1,232
1220	Fraké	310	2,480	1232	Movingui	210	2,100
1346	Ilomba	244	1,464	1489	Onzabili /Angongui	204	2,040
<b>Nombre total:</b>		3,130	<b>Volume total:</b>	30,006			

\* Les cartes d'inventaire d'exploitation jointes à la demande montrent la localisation des arbres à récolter

#### Prescription:

Le titulaire de ce certificat d'assiette annuelle de coupe doit respecter les normes d'intervention en milieu forestier ainsi que les clauses de son cahier des charges lors de la réalisation de ses activités d'aménagement forestier.

#### Date:

Le Ministre de l'Environnement et des Forêts

Date: Thursday, July 18, 20

Copie conforme du certificat d'assiette annuelle de coupe

Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts - Direction des Forêts  
**Statistiques d'abattage - DF10 enregistrées**

**Titre du rapport:**

Exercice	Titre dex.	N° Titre	Province	UFA	Bloc	Assiette	Essence	Nb grumes taxable	Nb grumes total	Volume taxable	Volume total
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1998-1999

Concession provisoire

1024

10 (Esl)

10-057

1103 Acajou de bassam	15	15	107	107
1107 Bossé clair	6	6	41	41
1108 Bossé foncé	10	10	70	70
1111 Dibétou	5	5	44	44
1113 Doussié rouge	9	9	83	83
1116 Inoko	14	14	192	192
1129 Sapelli	231	231	2,065	2,065
1130 Sipo	5	5	82	82
1135 Tiama	2	2	21	21
1211 Ayous/Obéché	973	973	10,005	10,005
<b>TOTAL: 2</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>10,005</b>	<b>10,005</b>

TOTAL:

TOTAL: 10-057

TOTAL: 10 (Esl)

TOTAL: 1024

TOTAL: Concession provisoire

TOTAL: 1998-1999

GRAND TOTAL:

1,270

1,270

12,710

12,710

## Appendix 4

Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts - Direction des Forêts

### Certificat d'Assiette annuelle de coupe (copie)

Convention provisoire d'exploitation



**Concession:** 1024      **Exercice:** 1999-2000      **Fin de validité:** 30 juin, 2000  
**Exploitant:** 409      MBENG Gustave      **Certificat émis le:** Monday, December 13  
 B.P. 20301 Yaoundé

#### Partie 1. Localisation des traitements sylvicoles:

100301	Batoum	05	10-057	10	Coupe à diamètre limite	2,500
<b>Superficie totale:</b>						2,500

\* Les cartes forestières jointes à la demande montrent la localisation précise de l'assiette de coupe autorisée

#### Partie 2. Essences à récolter:

Essence				Essence			
Code	Appellation	Nombre	Volum	Code	Appellation	Nombre	Volum
1106	Bété	167	710	1107	Bossé clair	17	628
1111	Dibétou	124	1,530	1112	Doussié blanc	63	385
1116	Iroko	137	2,231	1118	Kossipo	10	97
1119	Kotibé	70	700	1121	Moabi	4	32
1124	Okan / Adoum	38	117	1128	Padouk blanc	272	1,696
1129	Sapelli	118	2,260	1130	Sipo	147	1,900
1131	Tali	442	1,100	1137	Agba / Tola	3	17
1211	Ayous/Obéché	696	3,900	1218	Eyong	70	613
1220	Fraké	290	2,500	1228	Longhi / Abam	27	280
1229	Lotofa / Nkanang	39	468	1238	Niové	28	104
1317	Bahia	38	152	1318	Bilinga	204	2,040
1322	Diana / Celtis / Odou	480	1,200	1333	Ekouné	23	75
1334	Emien	912	2,100	1344	Fromager	149	948
1346	Ilomba	204	1,300				
<b>Nombre total:</b>		4,772	<b>Volume total:</b>	29,083			

\* Les cartes d'inventaire d'exploitation jointes à la demande montrent la localisation des arbres à récolter

#### Prescription:

Le titulaire de ce certificat d'assiette annuelle de coupe doit respecter les normes d'intervention en milieu forestier ainsi que les clauses de son cahier des charges lors de la réalisation de ses activités d'aménagement forestier.

#### Date:

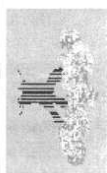
**Le Ministre de l'Environnement et des Forêts**

**Date:** Thursday, July 18, 20

**Copie conforme du certificat d'assiette annuelle de coupe**



Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts - Direction des Forêts  
**Statistiques d'abatage - DF10 enregistrées**



**Titre du rapport:**

Exercice	Titre d'ex.	N° Titre	Province	UFA	Bloc	Assiette	Essence	Nb grumes taxable	Nb grumes total	Volume taxable	Volume total
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1999-2000

Concession provisoire

1024

10 (Est)

10-057

10

1103	Acéjou de bassam	3	3	23	23
1106	Bélé	58	58	459	459
1107	Bossé clair	32	32	236	236
1111	Dibéou	72	72	556	556
1112	Doussié blanc	23	23	186	186
1113	Doussié rouge	2	2	11	11
1116	Iroko	43	43	430	430
1118	Kossipo	11	11	108	108
1119	Kotbé	16	16	121	121
1121	Moabi	4	4	55	55
1124	Okan / Adoum	24	24	176	176
1128	Padouk blanc	171	171	1,347	1,347
1129	Sapelli	81	81	785	785
1130	Sipo	36	36	294	294
1131	Tail	306	306	2,425	2,425
1132	Tail Yaoundé	2	2	11	11
1201	Ailé / Abel	11	11	70	70
1207	Aningré R	1	1	7	7
1211	Ayous/Obéché	3,782	3,782	30,158	30,158
1218	Eyong	153	153	1,172	1,172
1220	Faké	783	783	5,894	5,894
1229	Lotofa / Nkanang	109	109	852	852
1238	Niové	20	20	167	167
1312	Andok	1	1	6	6
1317	Bahia	6	6	46	46

Exercice	Titre d'ex.	N° Titre	Province	UFA	Bloc	Assiette	Essence	Nb grumes taxable	Nb grumes total	Volume taxable	Volume total
							1318 Billinga	146	146	1,124	1,124
							1322 Diana /Celtis / Odoù	74	74	589	589
							1333 Ekouné	5	5	33	33
							1334 Emlan	242	242	1,838	1,838
							1344 Fromager	18	18	148	148
							1346 Iomba	213	213	1,673	1,673
							<b>TOTAL: 10</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>51,000</b>
							<b>TOTAL: 10-057</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>51,000</b>
							<b>TOTAL: 10 (Est)</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>51,000</b>
							<b>TOTAL: 1024</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>51,000</b>
							<b>TOTAL: Concession provisoire</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>51,000</b>
							<b>TOTAL: 1989-2000</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>51,000</b>
							<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>51,000</b>