

6. CONCLUSION

The various approaches of HDP of budded cocoa clones of diversified growth habit evaluated on Rengam series soil at Merlimau Estate, Malacca, had in the main, not achieved the desired yield levels within trial duration that were considered economically viable compared to the conventional planting at 1075 trees/ha. Nevertheless, it became apparent that the correct choice of clonal materials eg. PBC123 and PBC159 that are precocious and possess the desirable growth habit eg. more dispersed canopy structure and smaller tree stature which would enhance yield efficiency, should be an integral consideration for viable HDP approach of budded clonal cocoa.

The present findings generally concurred with the clonal HDP experiences of BAL, MARDI, Golden Hope and Guthrie.

The shade x density interaction effect, the non-static density approach ie. plant at higher density and thin later, and the objective definition of genotype canopy architecture by measuring light transmission through canopy are some relevant areas of interest to address for further work on HDP of clonal cocoa.