

**INFLUENCE OF FRUGIVOROUS DIET ON THE RANGING PATTERN OF THE WESTERN LOWLAND GORILLA GROUP IN MOUKALABA-DOUDOU NATIONAL PARK, GABON**

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We described the ranging pattern of western lowland gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*), in Moukalaba-Doudou National Park Gabon similar to other sites, frugivory influenced on the ranging behavior of gorillas at Moukalaba. Gorillas at Moukalaba traveled long distance per day and wider monthly home-range when they depended large part of their diet on fruits. Gorillas at Moukalaba showed higher site fidelity than gorillas in montane forest. It also might be caused by higher frugivorous diet. This may be beneficial if it allows them to become familiar with the distribution and phenological cycles of food plants. According to this site fidelity, our study group repeatedly used particular area in fruit-eating periods. In non-fruit-eating periods, the group increased the frequency of using riverine forest to feed on leaves from trees of Moraceae. The group might maintain the cohesiveness by feeding on large amount of leaves when fruit availability was low. Thus gorillas at Moukalaba changed their ranging pattern according to the food distribution possibly to maintain the cohesive group

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