

A STUDY CONDUCTED TO DERIVE SOME USEFUL  
INFORMATION FROM A PARTIALLY ABANDONED TRIAL

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The Mahalanobis distance defined as  $D^2 = (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x}_j)' \underline{S}^{-1} (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x}_j)$  was used to investigate whether there was any difference between two levels of shade applied in the original treatments of the partially discarded shade and fertilizer trial on cocoa at Minor Export Crops Research Station, Matale. About twenty five observations were made on each of seventy six randomly selected trees from the guard rows under each shade level in the remaining part of experiment. But only twelve observations, of which three were qualitative, were used in the present study. The  $D^2$  statistic showed that two levels of shade cannot be discriminated based on the variables studied. The probability of misallocation for shade levels was 0.34. The variables which were used in the  $D^2$  statistic calculation were also subjected to analysis of variance on each variable and picked out the variables, which were growth parameters and pod counts, significantly different in different varieties.