Data from: Defoliation by pastoralists affects savanna tree seedling dynamics by limiting the facilitative role of canopy cover, Bufford, Jennifer L., Gaoue, Orou G.

**Data 2: Seedling and sapling microhabitat data**

**(Data name: Khaya\_Seedling\_Microhabitats.csv)**

**1. Data description**

We collected four years (2004-2007) seedling and sapling microhabitat and abundance data within ten 10 x 10m plot within each of 12 population of *Khaya senegalensis* in Benin, West Africa. Within each plot, we collected data yearly on grass cover (%), percent plot burned, and percent cover of non-graminaceous understory species (2005-2007), and tree canopy cover (2006-2007). We also counted seedling (<2 cm) and sapling number in each plot from 2004-2006. These microhabitats data are for the same individuals as in Data 1 file (Khaya\_Seedling\_Demography.csv).

**2. Variable description**

Subplot: Population number “p” subplot number

Year: year the data were collected

region: ecological region, either wet (Sudano-Guinean) or dry (Sudanian)

Pop: population number

RegPlot: number of the 10 x 10m plot within each population (10 plots per population)

harv: harvest intensity, either Harv (high harvest intensity populations) or NoHarv (low harvest intensity populations)

Name: population name

Grass: percent cover of grass

Other: percent cover of woody understory

Burn: percent of the plot burned

Canopy: percent canopy cover (including K. senegalensis canopy and other tree canopies)

TotSdlg: total number of seedlings in the plot

NewSdlg: number of newly-recorded seedlings in the plot

TotFruit: total fruit production of K. senegalensis trees in that population in that year

Precip: annual precipitation for that year and region

Temp: annual mean temperature for that year and region

SmSdlg: number of seedlings (basal diameter <2 cm ) in the plot

Sap: number of saplings (basal diameter ≥ 2 cm ) in the plot

mCanopy: canopy cover per plot averaged across years