Why are untrimmed coconut trees healthier than trimmed trees in areas of CRB infestations.

With help from ChatGPT this is what I determined to be causing the "Untrimmed Effect". **It should be noted that leaving fruit on trees should only be done if you are not injecting trees or using a top spray that has a "Harmful to Pollinators" warning. You must also consider the liability issue of falling coconuts.**

Field observations in CRB-infested areas suggest that **untrimmed coconut trees that retain their fruit often show better resilience** than heavily pruned trees with fruit removed. This may be due to several interconnected biological and ecological factors:

Why Untrimmed Trees May Fare Better:

- **Wound Avoidance**: Fresh pruning wounds attract adult beetles.
- **Natural Decoys**: Dead or dying fronds left on the tree may draw beetles away from the vital spear leaf and crown area.
- **Physical Protection**: Dense frond bases can act as barriers, making it harder for beetles to access the growing point.
- **Tree Vigor**: Fruit-bearing trees are generally more vigorous and recover more effectively from beetle damage.
- **Nutrient Recycling**: Coconut trees can **reabsorb nutrients from aging or maturing fruit and fronds**, conserving resources and supporting internal repair and defense mechanisms—especially valuable during a CRB attack.

Recommendations for Tree Owners and Landscapers:

1. **Avoid aggressive pruning**, especially of green fronds and developing fruit, unless necessary.
2. If pruning is needed:
   - Time it during cooler, drier months when beetle activity is lower.
   - **Seal pruning wounds** to discourage beetle attraction.
   - **Dispose of green waste properly and promptly**—never leave trimmed material on-site.
3. **Leave some fruit on the tree** to maintain hormonal balance, tree energy, and nutrient cycling.
4. Frequent trimming also causes the trunk to thin out (they call it "hotel cut" or pencil trunk).