

ACCEPTANCE OF MIXED CROPPING SYSTEMS BY FARMERS

ACEITAÇÃO DE SISTEMAS DE POLICULTIVO PELO PRODUTOR

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ENV 23 - 10

Land use in the Amazon region by the indigenous populations was ecologically appropriate, but inappropriate in the general sense of sustainability, resulting in economic hardship for the people concerned. Modern agricultural practices (monocultures), for their part, have led to a series of failures. Successful agricultural activity in Amazonia calls for more complex systems that improve nutrient recycling and reduce the loss of plant material. In this context, agroforestry systems can rehabilitate traditional, indigenous practices by optimizing land use and satisfying basic human needs without destroying natural resources, and improving them where possible. The poster analyses the possible contribution of mixed cropping systems. Because of the similarities to the production systems encountered in Amazonia, mixed cropping systems may become more attractive to the local population to the extent that they prove to be flexible, sustainable and economically viable in practice. Their acceptance, adoption and use by farmers will help to allay general concerns, and improve overall prosperity and security.

EVALUATION OF MANIOC (*MANIHOT ESCULENTA* CRANTZ) CULTIVATION IN MIXED CROPPING SYSTEMS

AVALIAÇÃO DA CULTURA DA MANDIOCA (*MANIHOT ESCULENTA* CRANTZ) EM SISTEMA E POLICULTIVO

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Yields and survival rates will be presented for three manioc cultivars (*Pão* IM 226, *Vinagre* IM 157 and *Mandioca* IM 116), planted between the rows in two mixed cropping systems, which were treated by application of 30% or 100% of the recommended fertilizer dose and inoculation or not with mycorrhizal fungi spores. With regard to yield, there is no statistically significant difference between the treatments viewed in isolation. However, there are statistically significant differences between the cultivars *Pão* (10.6 tons/ha) and *Vinagre* (5.5 tons/ha) in system 2; between 100% fertilization (5.2 tons/ha) and 30% fertilization (3.7 tons/ha) in system 3 and between the *Pão* cultivars in systems 2 (10.6 tons/ha) and 3 (5.4 tons/ha). The resprouting rates of the cuttings were considered to be low. There was no statistically significant difference in survival rates between the treatments. The yields are lower than those normally obtained in the region, i.e. 20.0 tons/ha for *Pão*, 14.0 tons/ha for *Vinagre* and 16,0 tons/ha for *Mandioca* in monoculture.