



Maize and sweet lupine intercropping under conservation agriculture: An option in forage mixed farming



INTRODUCTION

Conservation agriculture (CA) has been promoted for sustainable crop production. The CA includes minimum soil disturbance, residue retention and intercropping and/or rotation of cereals and legumes crops. Alternative forage supply is essential among small holders who practice mixed crop livestock farming. Hence, an introduction of maize intercropped with sweet lupine was recommended as a feasible option since sweet lupine provide livestock feed.

How to apply CA?

Controlling weeds: Apply non-selective herbicides such as Round up (glyphosate) at the rate of 3.0 lit ha⁻¹ before planting 5–7 days .

Land preparation: Use one pass oxen plough as minimum tillage for the maize and sweet lupine rows.

Planting: maize is planted in rows at spacing of 75cm between rows and lupine planted between two rows of maize. Spacing between maize is 30 cm and that of lupine is 7cm. Sweet lupine is planted 15 days after planting maize .

Fertilizer application: DAP was applied at the rate of 200 kg ha⁻¹ during planting and 200 kg urea was applied at 45 days after maize planting. For update information look to the recommendation given by District Agricultural and Natural Resources Office Advices.

Weeding: 2–3 times weeding can be enough to control economically important weeds.

Harvesting: It is very important to know that most of the varieties of were early matured and shattered. Harvesting shall be made first harvest the sweet lupine after 5-7 day of maturity the biomass and the grain, then harvest the

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Amhara Agricultural Research Institute,
Andassa Livestock Research Center
Molla Haile
TEL:+251918011428
YALFAL TEMESGEN



SIMLESA
Sustainable Intensification of Maize
and Legume Systems for Food
Security in Eastern and Southern Africa



Australian Government
Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research