GOOD AGRONOMIC PRACTICES FOR CASHEW / MANGO PRODUCTION

Introduction

Cashew and Mango are both land-intensive plants that grow continuously and Ghana's tropical climate is ideal for their cultivation. Mango fruits and Cashew nuts are sought after in many locations in Ghana. Adopting good agronomic practices is crucial to ensuring sustainable and profitable production.



Site Selection

Mango/Cashew grows well on gentle sloping or flat lands of different soil types like well drained sandy or clay



Land Preparation

The field should be ploughed and harrowed before seed or seedling establishment. Mango/Cashew requires enough sunlight, so careful spacing and design of the site is



Planting Time

Planting should be done at the onset of the rains, middle of May to end of July.



Lining and pegging:

Lining and pegging (square or triangular) at a spacing of 10m×10m is required before planting.



Planting holes (depth):

Recommended depth is 50cm×50cm (seedlings)



Carefully Remove Polybag Becareful not to cut the tap root.



Placing topsoil and subsoil:

After digging, the topsoil should be placed into the hole before the subsoil for the roots to get enough soil nutrient for its establishment.



Firming the hole:

The hole should be firmed very well to prevent moisture from being lost from the roots.

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES





WEED CONTROL

Do ring weeding. Control weeds manually, mechanically, or chemically three (3) times a year as weeds might compete for nutrient, space, sunlight etc.



BEATING-UP

Weak seedlings should be replaced.



PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL

Implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods to control pests and diseases in the plantation.



PLANT TIMBER TREES AROUND MANGO FARM

Protect farms from fire and st winds by constructing fire belts and windbreaks with fast growing trees like CASSIA around the farm prior to mango establishment.



PRUNING

Do early pruning (formative pruning) after a year of planting.





FERTILIZER APPLICATION

Do not apply inorganic fertilizer within the first six (6) months after planting.



ACCESSIBILITY

Ensure accessibility to all parts of the farm to enable routine activities to be carried out easily.

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Fire Prevention & Management

A Farmer's Guide to Fire Safety in Ghana



Understanding Bush Fire Management





Bush Fire Management means keeping your farm safe from dangerous

It's like protecting your farm from big, hot flames that can destroy everything

We will show you how to prevent and control these fires to keep your farm safe.

2 Know the Fire Management Laws











P.N.D.C.L. 229 Control and Prevention of Bush Fire. (Law, 1990)

To suppress, prevent and control bush fires.

Except as otherwise provided under this law, it is unlawful for any person to start a bush fire for any purpose whatsoever.

There shall be established in every town, area or unit, a Fire Volunteer Squad.

Any person who starts a fire permitted by this Law shall control the spread of the fire.

Where any damage is caused by a fire set by an employee of the organisation, such organisation or individual shall be held responsible for the damage.

Safe Fire Management Practices



Use sand in absence of water to extinguish small



Plant recommended fire resistant trees around your farm (Khaya senegalensis).



Create fire belts 20m apart from farms to stop on coming fires.



Create bare ground firebreaks around your farm, plantation or home



Avoid burning of farmlands after weeding during the dry season.



Never fight bushfires against the wind, especially on windy days.



Blow an alarm when fire is spotted close to a farmland.



Make sure you extinguish any cigarette and not just throw it away after smoking.



Keep water supply and shovel close to farmlands.

Preventing Fires on Your Farm

Dos



Create a fire hole (Dakota) wnen cooking on farm to prevent fire from spreading.



Educate family members on bushfire prevention.



Don'ts



Do not cook with naked fires on the farm.



Do not tap palm wine with fire.



Clear surrounding bush or weeds manually with hoes or cutlass in the dry season.



Tap palm wine without fire.



Do not leave open fires unattended.



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