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Tallahassee, Florida

Cooperative Extension Program

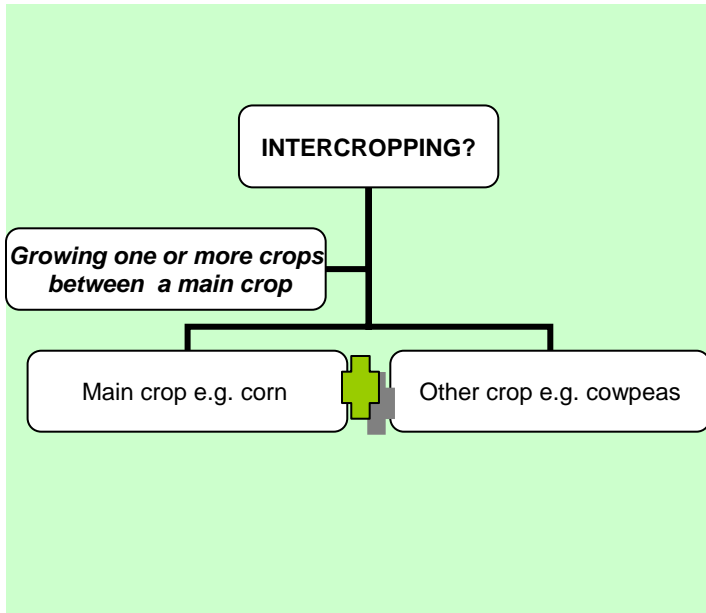
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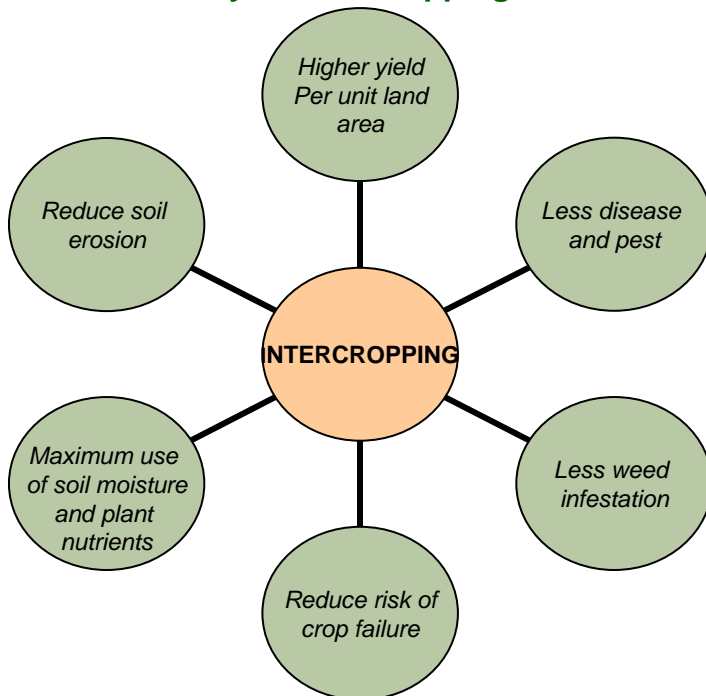
Intercropping can Increase Total Crop Yield in Small-scale Farms

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Corn-cowpeas intercrop

Why do intercropping?



Research has shown that corn yields higher per acre when intercropped with cowpeas versus corn planted alone (see Table 1).

Table 1: Corn-cowpeas intercrop vs. sole crop corn

Treatment	Yield/acre	Plants/acre
Corn-cowpeas intercrop	1,267lb	9075
Sole crop corn	687lb	22,142

Note: Sole crop corn means corn grown alone

REFERENCES:

Gardner, C. S., C. H. McGowan, R. L. Carter, C. L. Brasher and G. Queeley. 1997. Effect of low-input techniques on tropical corn production on small-scale farms. Southern Conservation Tillage Conference for Sustainable Agric. Special Series SS-AGA-60. Univ. of Florida, p 270-280.

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