



# CROP DIVERSIFICATION THROUGH USE OF INTERCROPS AND SUBSIDIARY CROP

## TERMINOLOGY AND STRATEGIES

Increasing the spatial and temporal crop diversification in agroecosystem through intercropping practices and subsidiary crops, allows to optimize the use of resources and to improve weed control significantly at crop rotation level. We propose this interactive scheme to summarize the strategies based on intercropping and subsidiary crop and their terminology.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Increasing the use of intercrops and subsidiary crops can improve weed control significantly at crop rotation level

## SPATIAL DIMENSION

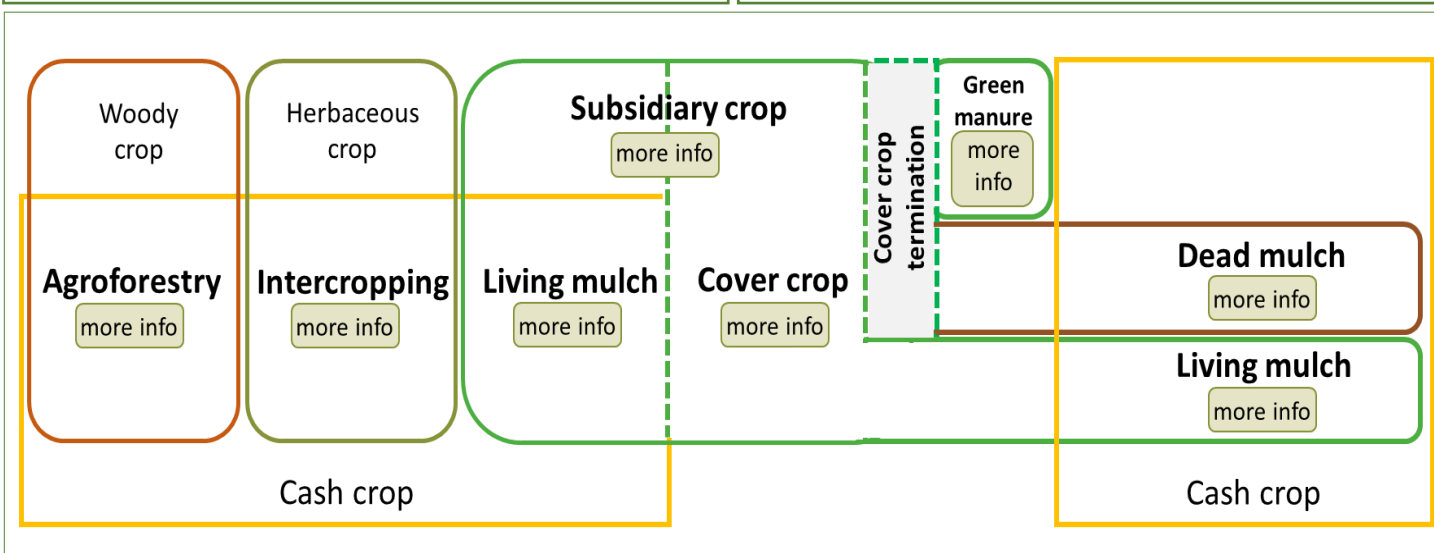


Crop diversification in space involves the growth of two or more crops simultaneously for a certain period of time. The spatial lay-out of the two crops needs to be chosen based on optimisation of the available resources and the characteristics of the two crops. Co-cultivation between crops with complementary morphological and physiological characteristics allows optimised use of all resources in space, therefore leaving less for weeds to develop.

## TEMPORAL DIMENSION



Crop diversification in time can be increased by the use of subsidiary crop between harvest and planting of commercial crops. Several months may separate two cash crops and the uncovered soil in this period is favourable to weed growth and dissemination. The use of cover crops can improve weed control in this time and provide significative substantial benefits at crop rotation level.



Interactive scheme showing the strategies based on crop diversification and their terminology. Click on [more info](#) under each term to obtain more information. To navigate use Adobe Acrobat after downloading the file.

## CONTACTS

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