INTERCROPPING
in semi-arid areas

Report of a symposium held at the
Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry
and Veterinary Science,
University of Dar es Salaam,
Morogoro, Tanzania,
10-12 May 1976

Editors:
J. H. Monyo, A. D. R. Ker,
and Marilyn Campbell

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Intercropping in Semi-Arid Areas

Report of a symposium held at the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Science, University of Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanzania, 10–12 May 1976

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Farmer's field near Ibadan, Nigeria, showing intercrop of cowpea under maize
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Future Directions of Intercropping and Farming Systems Research in Africa

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Valuable experience has been obtained in the intercropping studies at Morogoro and elsewhere, but further research is needed both in intercropping and multiple cropping, and particularly into the development of improved farming systems for semi-arid areas.

Small farmers in areas of high potential have been successful in developing highly intensive farming systems adapted to heavy population pressures, but in general, farmers in the semi-arid areas have not been so fortunate, and major problems of low crop yields, soil exhaustion, and erosion are occurring.

A two-pronged approach is desirable, with initial surveys of the most severely affected areas by interdisciplinary teams, followed by pilot-scale trials on the farmers' land.

This approach would need to be supported by backup work on research stations, with perhaps some emphasis on integrated small farming systems, particularly for analysis of economic problems.