Recommendations for Cassava Maize Intercropping

**Plant an erect variety of cassava** like TME 419 or TMS 98/0581. We recommend obtaining disease-free cuttings from an accredited source.

- Plant your cassava in rows that are 1 m apart and plant cuttings at 0.8 m within the row (density of 12,500 cassava plants per hectare)
- If your field is ridged, plant your cassava on the crest of the ridge

**Plant an early-maturing maize variety** that fully matures in 90 to 95 days, like SAMMAZ 35 (yellow) or SAMMAZ 48 (white). Ask your local agrodealer or extension agent for advice on the best variety for your area.

- Plant your maize in rows that are 1 m apart between the rows of cassava
- If your field is ridged, plant your maize mid slope
- Plant your cassava and your maize at the same time

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**Based on your knowledge of this field, how do you expect your maize to look at tasseling if grown without fertilizer?**

1. About Knee Height (~50cm) yellowish leaves
2. About Chest Height (~150cm) yellowish leaves
3. Taller than a person (200cm) with somewhat green leaves
4. Taller than a person (200cm) with dark green leaves
5. Taller than a person (200cm) with yellowish leaves

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**Evaluate profitability of fertilizer application on back side**

Have you decided to apply fertilizer?

- **No**
  - Plant maize at low density (20,000 plants per hectare).
  - Sow maize seeds at 50 cm within rows.
- **Yes**
  - Plant maize at high density (40,000 plants per hectare).
  - Sow maize seeds at 25 cm within rows.

**Note:** We recommend planting two maize seeds per hill and thinning to one plant per hill after 1-2 weeks. Alternatively, you can plant 1 seed per hill and gap missing plants at 3-5 days after planting.
Evaluate profitability by comparing the price of your maize produce against the cost of the fertilizer. Use the diagram according to the expected maize performance. If you will sell your maize as fresh cobs go to A. If you will sell your maize as dry grain, go to B.

Recommended rates and fertilizer application if profitable

Fertilizer rate on the basis of one hectare (ha)
We recommend applying 90 kg N, 20 kg P and 37 kg K per hectare. This rate equals 6 bags (of 50 kg) of NPK 15:15:15 and 2 bags (of 50 kg) of urea for 1 hectare (100 m x 100 m).

At planting
- Apply 6 bags of NPK on 1 ha
- Make a hole 5 cm from the maize seed
- If you have ridges, make the hole on the upper side
- Make the hole about 5 cm deep
- Spread the NPK equally into each hole
- Cover with soil

3 weeks after planting
- Apply 1 bag of urea on 1 ha
- Make a shallow furrow 10 cm away from the maize hills
- If you have ridges, make the furrow on the upper side
- Spread the urea evenly
- Cover with soil

5 weeks after planting
Follow the same procedure as at 3 weeks.

Note: fertilizer will also increase your cassava root yield by at least 2 tonnes per hectare.