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Principles, Practices and Developmental Processes


Integrated Soil Fertility Management in Africa

Northern Guinea Savanna Zone of Nigeria: Response by Mucuna pruriens, Lablab purpureus, and maize. Soil Biology and Biochemistry 32:2063-2077.


About this book, editors and contributors

About this book

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is investing in soil health as an important component of the African Green Revolution, a thrust that is intended to bring food security and improve the living standards of millions of poor, small-scale farmers in sub-Saharan Africa. During 2007, the Foundation commissioned the Tropical Soil Biology and Fertility Institute of CIAT to develop a series of concept papers and technical reports on Integrated Soil Fertility Management for its internal use in designing an African Soil Health Initiative. In response to that challenge, a team of fifteen experts was drawn from Africa and elsewhere to prepare these reports that later served as the structure for the development of this book, an effort that was further assisted by a grant from the Foundation. This grant permitted 4000 copies of this book to be printed by the United Nations of Nairobi Printing Unit and distributed free-of-charge to development specialists, educators, extension specialists and agricultural scientists throughout Africa. Those requiring a copy of this book are invited to contact TSBF-CIAT in Nairobi.

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Integrated Soil Fertility Management In Africa: Principles, Practices and Developmental Process

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This reference manual prepared by TSBF-CIAT and its international team of experts improves understanding and increases application of Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) in Africa. It combines current knowledge of soil fertility management by African smallholders with recent breakthroughs in the state-of-the-art and is intended to strengthen ISFM practice among land managers, agriculturalists, and rural development specialists. This book is separated into four major sections addressing the underlying principles, field practices, developmental processes and social dimensions of advancing ISFM in Africa, guiding readers through better land management strategy in a stepwise, comprehensive manner.

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