Tropical Forages Program

CIAT
Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical
International Center for Tropical Agriculture

An Alliance Center Supported by the CGIAR
Partners in Research Cultivating the Future

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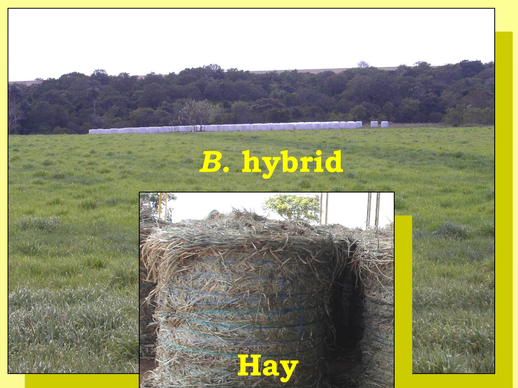
The forage team of CIAT is recognized as a world leader in the areas of Brachiaria breeding and forage legume development and linking forages to livestock production systems and clients.

Brachiaria Improvement

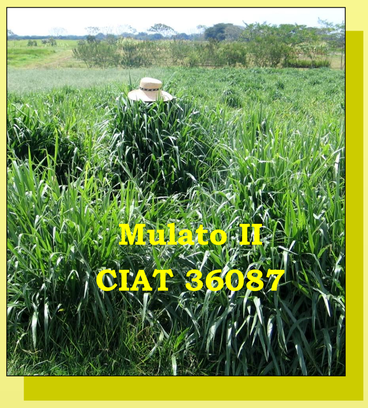
Resistance to major pest and diseases

Resistant Intermediate Susceptible

Resistant Intermediate Susceptible

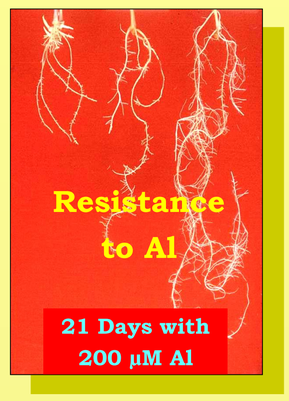


Antibiosis to four species, tolerance to *Aeneolamia varia*



Rhizoctonia foliar blight disease symptoms (CIAT 36061, BR04-1214)

Screening procedure is based on total root length in response to Al (*B.ruziziensis, B.brizantha, B.decumbens*)



Adaptation to acid soils, and to drought

The Brachiaria hybrids are currently utilized in pasture systems in LAC, SE Asia, with the aim to expand into Sub-Saharan Africa

Selected forage genotypes are evaluated by partners in different environments and production systems.

The forage team develops **methods on participatory evaluation** of forages and inclusion into farming systems.

Economic information is generated to guide decision makers (farmers, extension agencies, politicians) to assess the economic and environmental effects of forage technology adoption.

Recent releases of forage materials

A New Livestock System - SE Asia

Improved feed, more animals, more income, more time, better livelihoods.

CD Data Base of Tropical Forages

Information on agronomic characterization of 5.374 accessions of grasses and legumes, evaluated in 230 sites of Tropical America and Africa.

Pasturas Tropicales Journal and CD

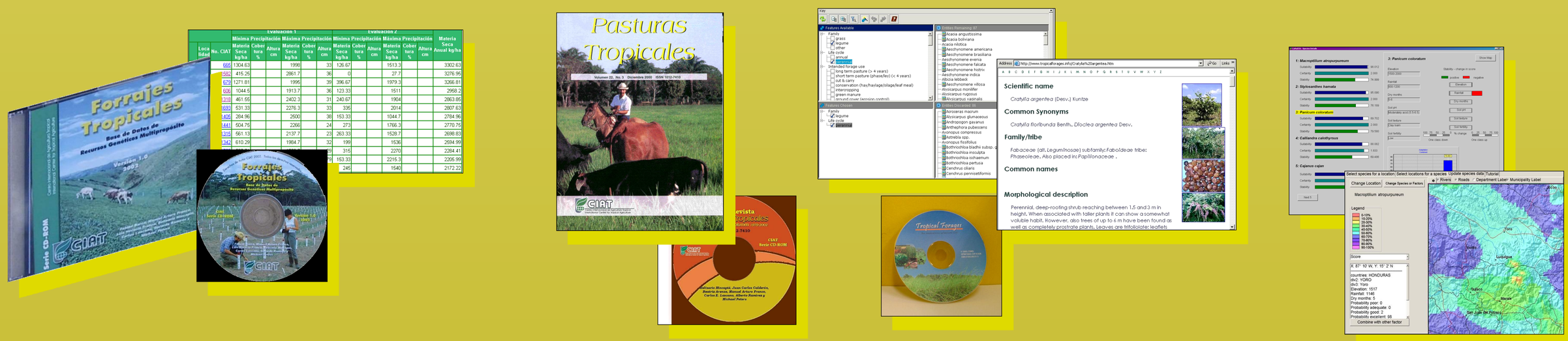
More than 600 scientific articles and research notes.

SoFT: Selection of Forages for the Tropics

A database of species adaptation and management reflecting 50 years of research and application.

CaNaSTA: Crop Niche Selection for Tropical Agriculture

GIS-based interactive decision support tool to target potential forage options.



Tools are developed with the objective to make experimental data available to a wide range of users, addressing farmers, development projects, NGOs, NARS, IARCs, educational institutions and the private sector. Information is available through the Web with more than 200.000 visits in 2006.