

Summary

A survey was conducted in 1985 among *Andropogon gayanus* cv. Carimagua 1 adopters in Cesar department, northern Colombia. The survey included 66 ranches and had the purpose of determining soil conditions, size and type of exploitation. These factors determine the cultivar's performance.

Data from 982 field observations were analyzed by multiple regression. Results indicate that the spread of *A. gayanus* in the area is determined by Al content in the soil ($b = 385.86^{**}$), by the previous crop ($b = 97.95^{**}$), soil depth ($b = 46.31^{**}$), and planting density ($b = 6.13^{**}$). Negative factors affecting the species spread were poor soil drainage ($b = -159.81^{**}$), planting in the dry season ($b = -105.28^{**}$), and soil salinity ($b = -72.62^{**}$).

As related to size of exploitations, planting of the grass is higher in farms over 50 ha (16% of their area) and smaller in farms below 20 ha (2% of their area). The latter tend to be dual purpose farms.

There are more than 200,000 ha with potential for adoption of *A. gayanus*, which is also encouraged by rainfall distribution in the area.