

# Summary

Two methods of soil preparation were evaluated in a native pasture at the Teaching, Research, and Extension Center for Tropical Livestock (CEIEGT, its Spanish acronym). Situated at Tlapacoyan, Veracruz, Mexico (20° 03' N, 97° 03' W; 151 m.a.s.l.), the climate is hot and humid [type Af(m)(e)]. The two methods, complete tilling and minimal tilling, were evaluated under the establishment of *Arachis pinto* CIAT 17434, with fertilization (T1 and T2) and without fertilization (T3 and T4), from November 1991 to October 1992. The treatments (tilling methods and fertilization) were arranged in a split-plot design. The legume was planted at 50 cm between plants and 80 cm between rows in the following seasons: cold or "the norths" = from November to February; dry = from March to June; and summer or rainy = from July to October. The evaluations were conducted at 4, 8, 12, and 24 weeks.

In terms of number of *A. pinto* plants established and soil cover, summer, with complete soil preparation, gave the best results. The legume did not respond to fertilization because of its slow initial growth.