

Summary

The adaptation of herbaceous and shrub forage species, without fertilization, was evaluated on farms in hillside areas of Mercaderes and Santander de Quilichao (Department of Cauca) and of Riofrío and Sevilla (Department of Valle del Cauca) in Colombia. In Mercaderes, *Leucaena leucocephala* CIAT Bv01, *Cratylia argentea* CIAT 18676, and *L. leucocephala* CIAT 17495 yielded 92, 84, and 76 g DM/plant, respectively, every 9 weeks. In Santander de Quilichao, the performance of *C. argentea* CIAT 18957 (191 g DM/plant) and *C. argentea* CIAT 18668 (157 g DM/plant) was outstanding. In Riofrío, *Centrosema macrocarpum* CIAT 5713 and *C. pubescens* CIAT 15160 presented outstanding yields with 2.14 and 1.14 t DM/ha at 12 weeks, respectively. Among the grasses, *Brachiaria humidicola* CIAT 6369, *B. dictyoneura* CIAT 6133, and *Panicum maximum* CIAT 6299 were outstanding. In Sevilla, the best performing legume was *C. macrocarpum* CIAT 5713 (1.89 t DM/ha at 12 weeks).

Ecotypes, such as *B. dictyoneura* CIAT 6133, *B. humidicola* CIAT 6369, *C. macrocarpum* CIAT 5713, and *C. argentea* CIAT 18516 and 18668, adapt well to the conditions of this survey and are promising alternatives for managing soils and forage on offer in hillside areas of Latin America's lowland tropics.