

Growing of Intercrops in Cashew Based Cropping System under Coastal Sandy Soils of Andhra Pradesh

K Umamaheswara Rao, K T Venkata Ramana, K M Yuva Raj, B Vimala and B Nagendra Reddy

Cashew Research Station, Dr.Y.S.R.Horticultural University, Bapatla, A. P.

ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted during 2011-16, to evaluate the performance of intercrops viz., Amaranthus (*Amaranthus tricolor*), Clusterbean (*Cyamopsis tetragonoloba*), Hibiscus (*Hibiscus cannabinus*) and Marigold (*Tagetes erecta*) under Cashew plantation at Cashew Research Station, Bapatla. Even though the average yield of intercrop was maximum in Hibiscus (*Hibiscus cannabinus*) with 79.25 qha⁻¹ and the average yield of Cashew was recorded highest in Cashew + Amaranthus (T₄). Marigold has recorded highest benefit cost ratio (2.33) consistently for five years followed by Clusterbean (1.88). Hence, growing of Marigold as an intercrop in cashew plantation under coastal sandy soils of Andhra Pradesh at initial years can be recommended.

Keywords: *Cashew, Cost benefit ratio and Intercropping.*