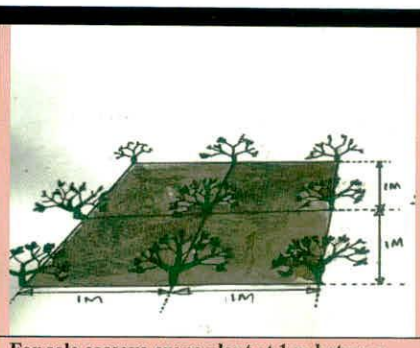
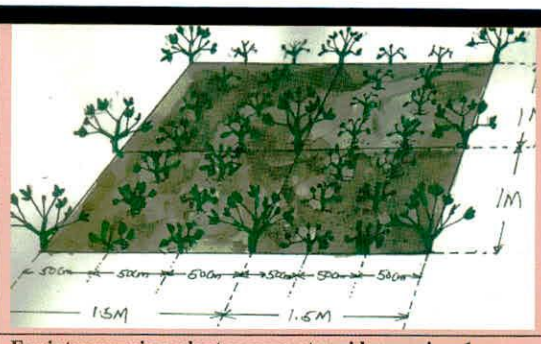
How can a farmer get good cassava yields?

5) Plant at the correct spacing

Too wide spacing between cassava plants leads to increased weed competition and poor yields per unit area.



For sole cassava crops plant at 1 m between rows and 1 m within the rows



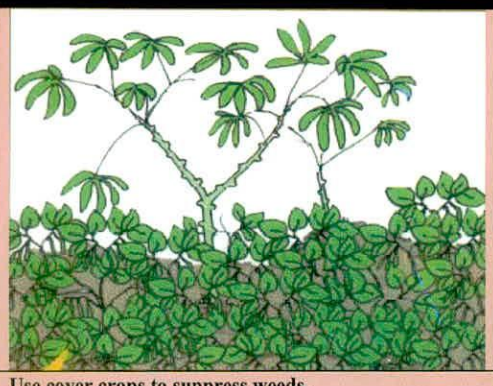
For intercropping, plant cassava at a wider spacing, 1 m x 1.5 m for the branching types

6) Control weeds early

Early weeding prevents weeds from competing with the cassava for nutrients, water, light and space



Manual weed control (hand weeding).



Use cover crops to suppress weeds.

7) Control pests and diseases

Select cuttings from cassava varieties that are resistant to the common diseases in your area.



Avoid plants that suffer from a complex of diseases and pests.



Rogue out diseased plants and burn to reduce spread of diseases.

8) Harvest your cassava at the appropriate time.

Harvest as soon as the tubers are mature.



Harvest early maturing varieties 12 months after planting.



In cold environments, harvesting can be delayed.

NaCRRI

NARO

For further information contact:
Root Crops Programe, NaCRRI, Namulonge
P. O. Box 7084 Kampala

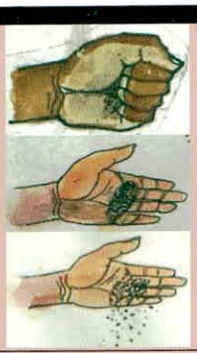
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How can a farmer get good cassava yields?

1) Select a good site

Cassava grows best on light, sandy loams or on loamy sands which are moist, fertile and deep



Good soil (loamy) can be moulded into a ball that breaks under slight pressure



Do not use clay or water logged soils



A piece of land with a good history by past users is good for cassava growing

2) Prepare your land properly

Poor land preparation results in poor plant establishment and increased weed competition



Practice minimum tillage in sandy soil to conserve soil



Prepare land to improve soil contact with stem cuttings.

3) Choose desirable varieties

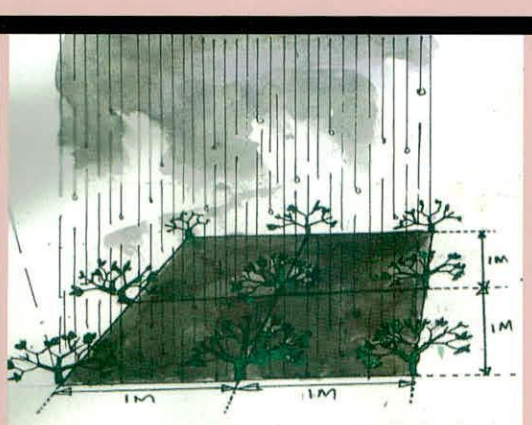
Best cassava varieties are those that grow fast, give good yields, tolerant to major pests and diseases & mature early

Characteristics of the latest improved cassava varieties in Uganda

Variety	Breeder's Code	Year of release	Reaction to Cassava Mosaic Disease (CMD)	Reaction to Cassava Brown Streak Disease (CBSD)	Yield (tons/ha)
Nase 13	MH97/2961	2011	Resistant	Tolerant	20-30
Nase 14	MM96/4271	2011	Resistant	Tolerant	21-35
Nase 15	28-TME 14	2011	Resistant	Tolerant	20-35
Nase 16	266-BAM	2011	Resistant	Tolerant	20-30
Nase 17	349-KAK	2011	Resistant	Tolerant	20-30
Nase 18	109-TME 14	2011	Resistant	Tolerant	20-35
Nase 19	72-TME 14	2011	Resistant	Tolerant	20-35

4) Select the correct planting time

Follow the local farming calendar, plant cassava at the beginning of the growing season.



Plant cassava at the beginning of the rainy season to ensure healthy sprouting and good crop establishment



Dry season planting is not recommended where the rain stop early because it adversely affects sprouting of stem cuttings