

## POTENTIALITY FOR INTER-CULTIVATING GRAIN LEGUMES IN COCONUT PLANTATIONS

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Several varieties of soybean, groundnut, cowpea and green gram were evaluated under rainfed conditions in coconut plantations at the Regional Agricultural Research Centre, Makandura, which is situated in the Low Country Intermediate Zone.

Soybean net area yields ranged from 1,116 to 1,792 kg per ha in *Yala* 1981, 731 to 1,120 kg per ha in *Yala* 1982 and 538 to 1,165 kg per ha in *Maha* 1982-83.

Groundnut net area yields ranged from 1,880 to 2,135 kg per ha in *Maha* 1980-81, 1,233 to 1,680 kg per ha in *Yala* 1981, 825 to 1,331 kg per ha in *Maha* 1981-82, 407 to 1,168 kg per ha in *Yala* 1982 and 757 to 1,211 kg per ha in *Maha* 1982-83.

Cowpea net area yields ranged from 121 to 631 kg per ha in *Maha* 1981-82, 179 to 776 kg per ha in *Yala* 1982 and 698 to 1,045 kg per ha in *Maha* 1982-83.

Green gram net area yields ranged from 28 to 186 kg per ha in *Maha* 1981-82, 115 to 375 kg per ha in *Yala* 1982 and 14 to 134 kg per ha in *Maha* 1982-83.

Generally, a variety x season interaction was evident in each crop.

While the yields obtained with soybean and groundnut compare favourably with that obtained under rainfed conditions in Dry Zone mono crop trials, the yields obtained with cowpea and green gram, particularly green gram, were low.