

ZNFU – Conservation Farming Unit

How to Plant Cassava Gardens For Food Security

Conservation Agriculture Programme
Supported by Norwegian Government



A garden of the **new** Cassava varieties can guarantee **food security** in case Maize fails due to drought or can provide a source of food when Maize is scarce between **November and April**.

Make sure you plant the correct varieties for your area

Where Cassava is commonly grown:-

Bangwueulu	Bitter
Chila	Semi Bitter

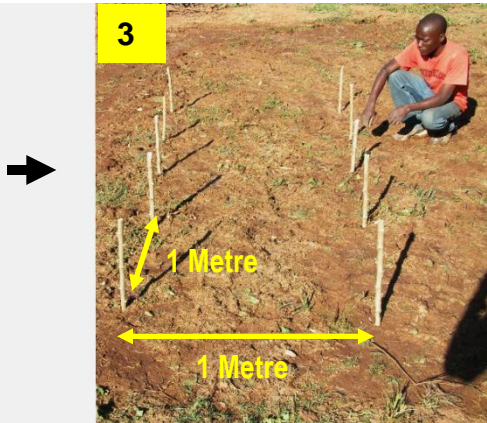
Or any of the varieties below:-

Where Cassava is not commonly grown, only:-

Nalumino	Semi-Sweet
Mweru	Semi-Sweet
Kapolombo	Sweet
Tanganyika	Very Sweet



For food between **December and March**, a garden of **20m x 20m** is sufficient for most families. This will require **4 bundles of 100 cuttings, 50cms long or 400 cuttings.**



Planting: 50cm sticks are pushed vertically about **20cms** into soil after good rain in **December** or early January. Spacing is 1metre x 1 metre.



Weeding: Keep young plants free of weeds until the weeds are smothered by the mature plants. Cassava planted like this will produce 1 or 2 shoots which then branch out later.



Fertilising: If you sprinkle **2 Cups of D** around the base of each plant in January or early February, the Cassava will benefit greatly. For a garden of **20m x 20m containing 400 plants, this is only 7kgs of D.**

Termite Control

Termites are a major problem in some areas. However, they can be controlled with **Imidacloprid**. Don't let Termites damage your Cassava. **Because the Cassava garden is very small, the chemical cost is little.**



Termite damage.



Check Knapsack: Check filters and nozzles are clean and pressure is strong.



Fill **10 litres** of clean water into Knapsack. Then remove **big filter** and add **1 25ml** sachet of **Imidacloprid**. Close lid and shake Knapsack **vigorously**. Buffer is not required.



Spray round the base of each cutting soon after planting. **Keep going round until all the 10 litres in the knapsack is finished.** This will be about 3 rounds. Protection should last **6 months**. Spray again when necessary.

Other Pests

Cassava Mealybug



Cassava Mosaic



If you observe these problems get advice.

Remember chemicals are poisonous. Wash hands after use. Keep sachets stored away from children.