

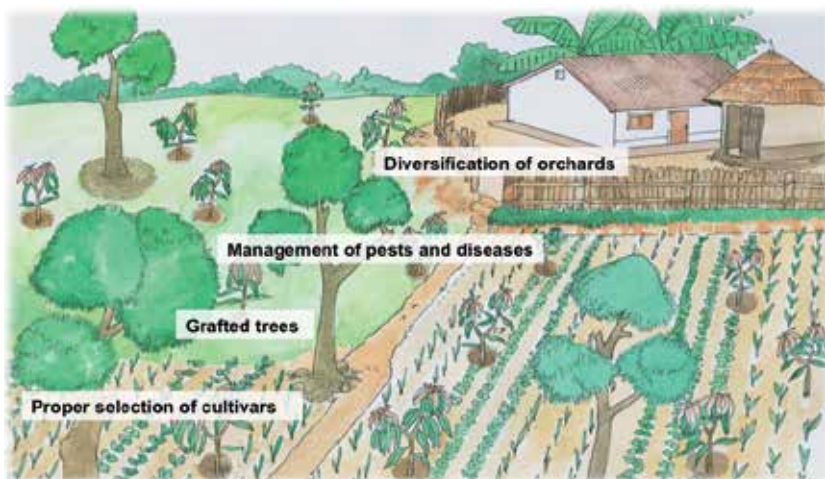
# GROWING MANGO THE ORGANIC WAY



Mango trees are easy to grow and can be grown in orchards, in hedges or around cultivated fields, or they can be intercropped with other plants.

According to the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM, 2008) organic agriculture is «a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.»

## Good management



- > Good organic management of mango trees starts with selecting appropriate cultivars.
- > Diversification of the orchard reduces disease pressure and promotes beneficial insects.
- > Proper maintenance of trees and regular monitoring of pests and diseases contribute to better harvests and better fruit quality.

## Ways of integrating Mango

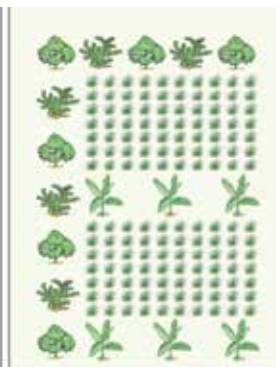
Intercropping with other crops



Planted as border tree



Grown with other trees or pasture



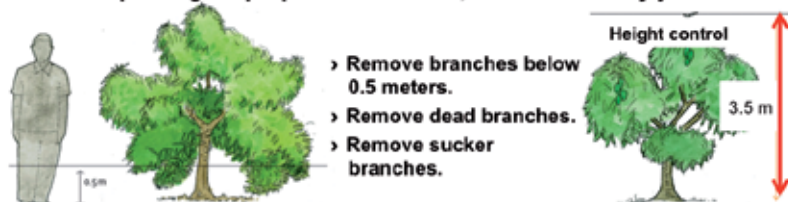
- > If mango is your main crop, plant the trees at a row and tree distance of 10 meters.
- > If mango is not the main crop, increase the row distance and use the space between the trees for growing vegetables or other fruit trees such as banana, papaya or cocoa.
- > You can also allow animals to graze on pasture growing between the mango trees.
- > Mango trees can also be grown as border trees around cultivated fields.

## Proper pruning and flower induction

### Formative pruning to achieve the desired shape



### Structural pruning for proper maintenance, to be done every year



### Flowering and fruit formation

- › In the first four years pluck all flowers to encourage tree development.
- › Smoke moist organic material under the tree (smudging) towards the dry season to induce flowering and reduce insect pressure.
- › Encourage the formation of larger fruits by removing up to one third of the undersized fruits.

## Pest management

### Mango seed weevil damage



#### How to manage:

- › Monitor regularly.
- › Remove and destroy infested fruits.
- › Avoid movement of fruits from one orchard to the other.
- › Apply sticky bands around the trunks.

### Mango fruit fly damage



#### How to manage:

- › Monitor regularly.
- › Remove and destroy infested fruits.
- › Promote natural enemies.
- › Bag the fruits.

### Mango seed weevil:

- › Remains often undetected until storage or when the fruits are cut.
- › Spreads through the transport of infested fruits.
- › Destroy all fallen fruits to prevent further development of the pest.

### Mango fruit fly:

- › Use bait traps to monitor infestation.
- › Remove fruits with dimples and oozing clear sap.
- › Spraying pyrethrum may kill beneficial insects also.

## Proper post-harvest handling

### Processing for fresh consumption

1. Wash within 12 hours in warm water



2. Drip dry on trays



3. Deliver in baskets to prevent damage



### Processing for dried fruit

2. Peel and slice



3. Lay on trays



4. Dry



- › Careful handling during harvest and storage reduces fruit damage and post-harvest losses.
- › Dip fruits for fresh consumption in a hot water bath for 5 minutes and cool them slowly while letting them drip dry.
- › Make sure to dry fruits properly for long storage.
- › Try to sell in the off-season in order to obtain better prices.