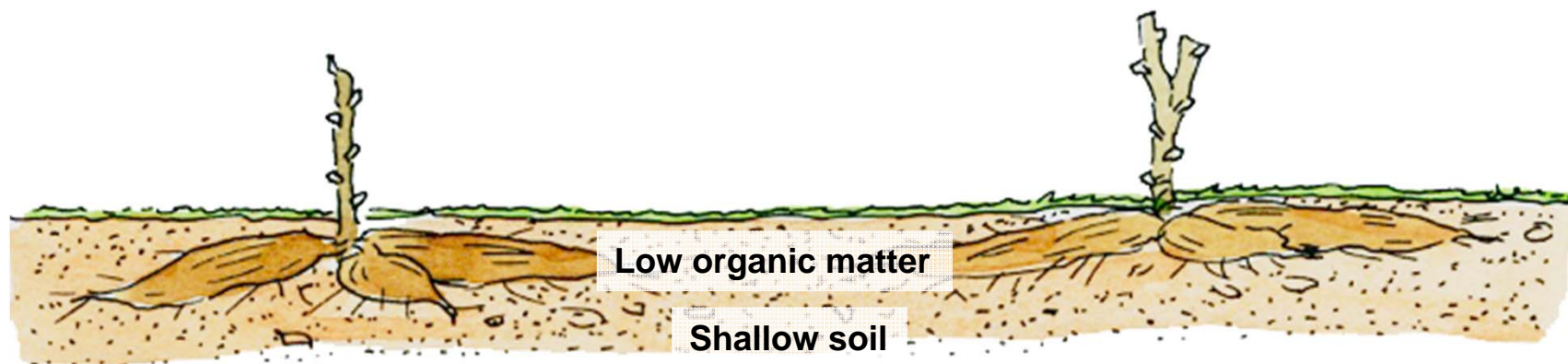


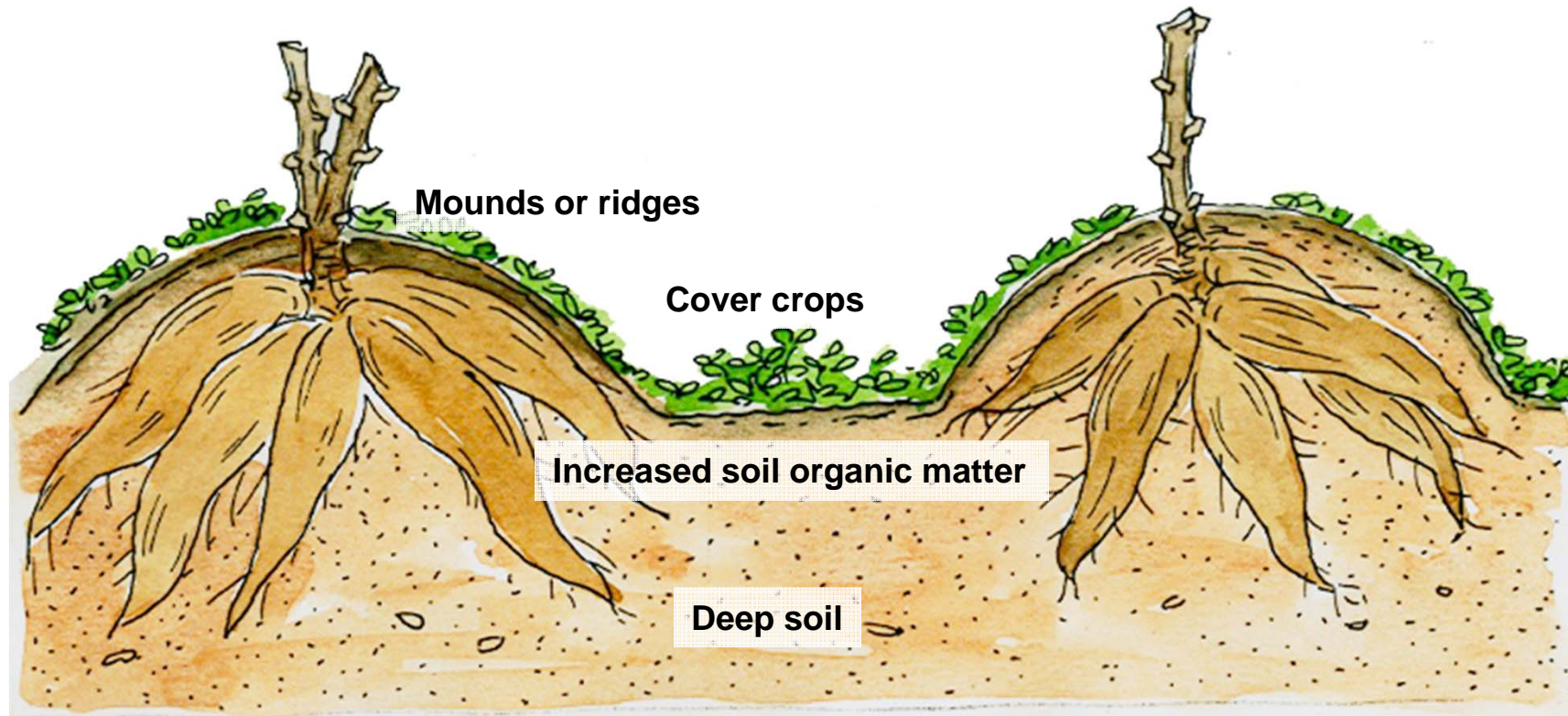
Unsuitable production conditions for cassava



Shallow and poor soils limit the growth and expansion of cassava tubers.



Improved cassava production conditions



Improving soil fertility and applying appropriate cultivation methods induces higher yields.



Criteria for choosing best cassava varieties



- › **Suitable for soils and climate**
- › **Resistant to cassava mosaic disease**
- › **Fast maturing**
- › **Good for food and other uses**
- › **Good for storing well in the ground**

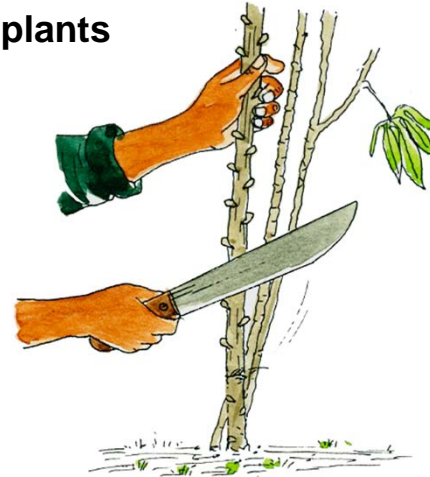


Selecting healthy cassava stem cuttings

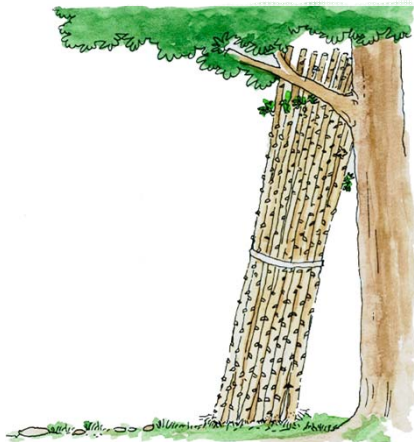
1. Use clean tools



2. Select healthy plants



3. Store under shade for 10 days

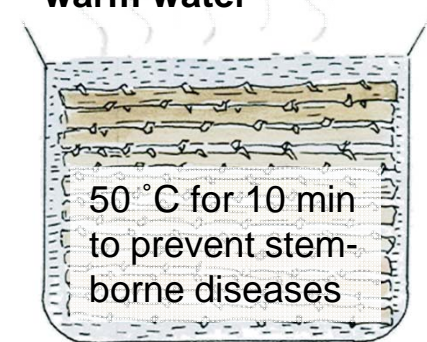


4. Make 30 cm long cuttings



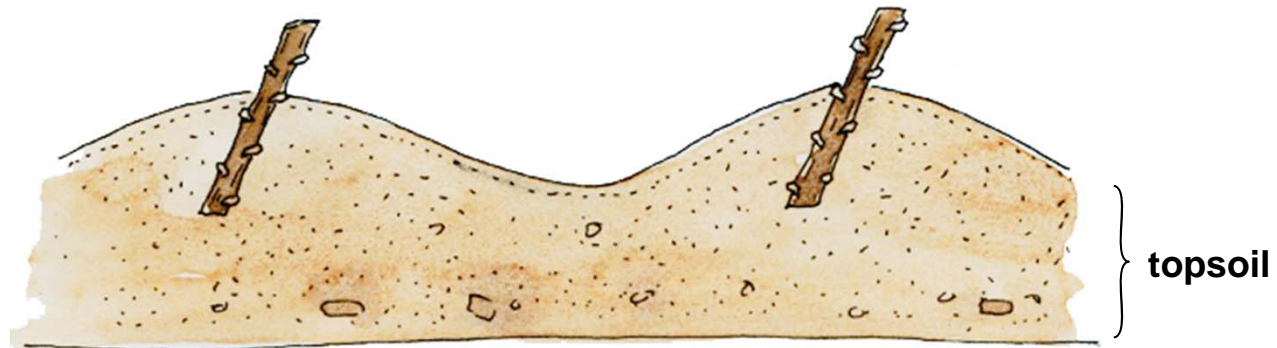
- > Cut off the top and basal parts of the stems.
- > Make sure the cuttings have 5 to 8 nodes.

5. Treat cuttings with warm water

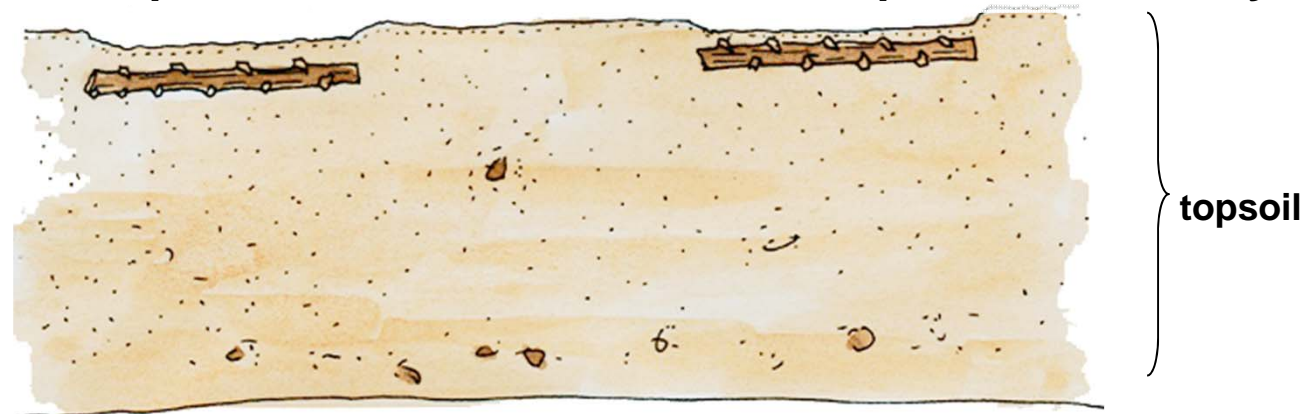


Planting modes of cassava stems

1. Shallow soils: plant on mounds or ridges

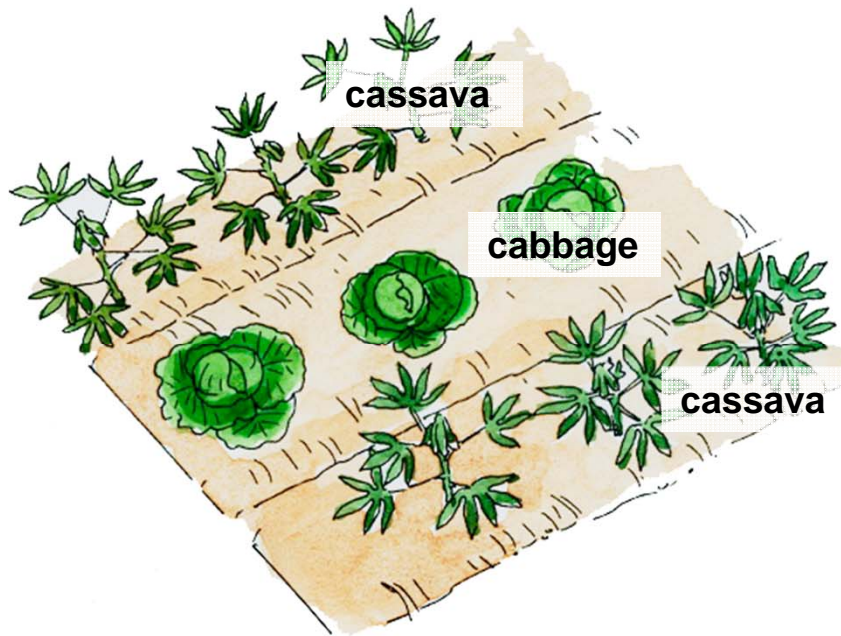


2. Deep soils and drier environments: plant horizontally

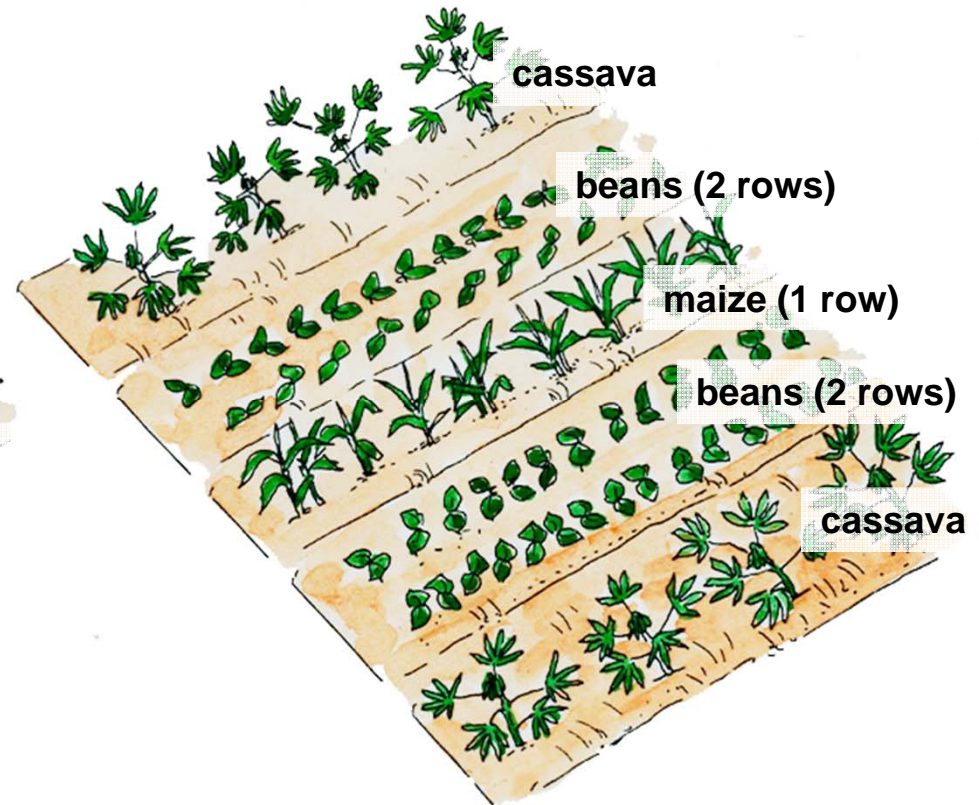


Intercropping systems in cassava

1. Simple intercropping



2. Complex intercropping



Soil fertility management

1. Apply manure



2. Grow green manures



3. Mulch in trash lines



cassava stems, roots, leaves



Management of major cassava pests

Pests	Preventive measures	Direct control measures
Variegated grasshopper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Expose and destroy the eggs during soil preparation. › Apply proper crop rotation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Use neem seed extracts. › When available, use bio-pesticides.
Whiteflies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Encourage natural enemies by planting natural hedges and by intercropping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Apply extracts of neem. › Use sticky traps for low density infestations. › Spray with soap and water.
Cassava green mite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Choose resistant varieties. › Use clean working tools. › Encourage natural enemies. › Soak cassava stems in warm water (50 °C for 10 minutes) before planting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Apply water under high pressure to reduce mite populations.
Mealybug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Plant early. › Cover soil with mulch. › Improve soil fertility. › Encourage natural enemies. › Treat cassava stem in warm water (50 °C for 10 minutes) before planting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Apply vegetal oils (e.g. neem oil), soapy solution, extracts of neem.



Management of major cassava diseases

Diseases	Preventive measures	Direct control measures
Cassava mosaic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Use resistant/tolerant varieties. › Use disease-free cuttings mainly from upper stem portions; avoid the basal portions as sources of stem cuttings. › Control whitefly (<i>Bemisia tabaci</i>) population in the field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Remove and destroy infected plants as soon as possible.
Cassava bacterial blight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Use healthy stem cuttings for planting. › Clean farm tools that are used on infected cassava plants. › Intercrop cassava with maize or melon. › Practice crop rotation for at least one growing season. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Remove and destroy infected plants as soon as possible.
Cassava root rot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Select a site which is not prone to flooding. › Clean tillage tools used in infected cassava fields. › Improve soil fertility. › Rotate crops to avoid carrying over of the diseases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Remove and destroy infected plants.



Proper harvest handling procedures

1. Topping before harvest

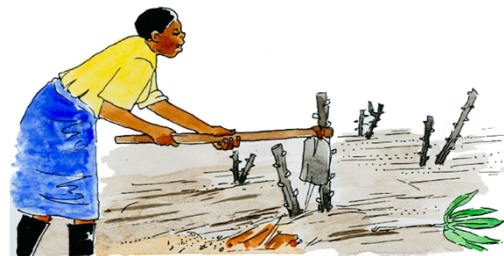


2. Hand pulling...



for sandy soils or during
the rainy season

...or digging

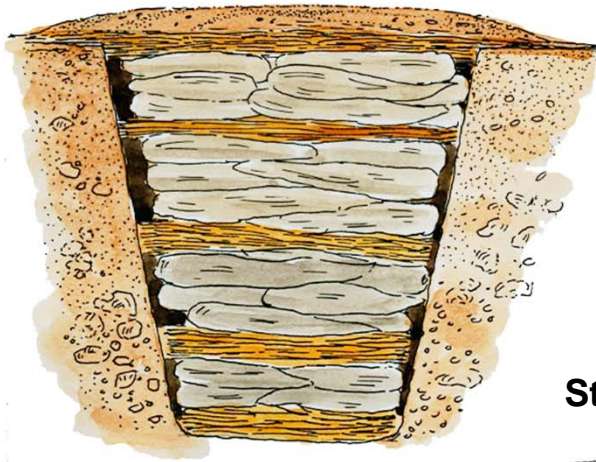


3. Careful transportation

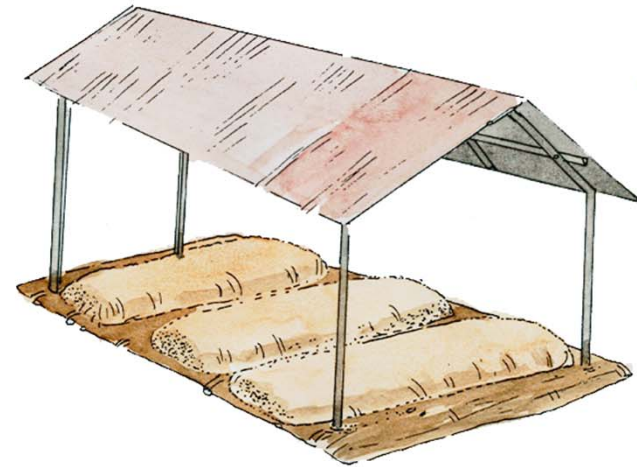


Examples of fresh cassava storage methods

Cassava buried in straw-lined trenches



A roof built over the trenches

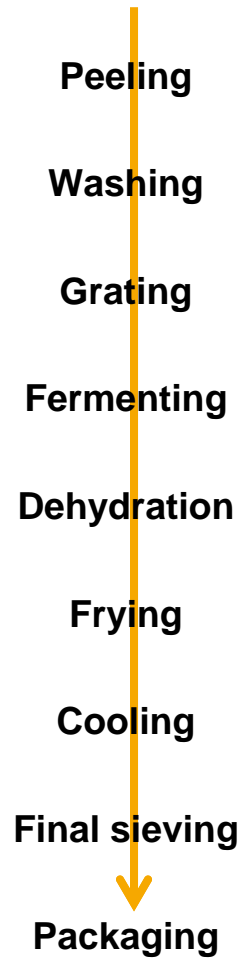


Storage in woven bags



Processing cassava: Gari and chips/flour

Making of Gari



Making of cassava flour

