MAIN PROJECT TITLE: Training Programme In Integrated Soil Fertility Management

FUNDING AGENCY

ALLIANCE FOR A GREEN REVOLUTION IN AFRICA

GRANT NO:

NO 2009 SHP 024 KU

SCHOOL:

AGRICULTURE AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT:

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

PROJECT TITLE (MSc research project)

Effect of Cattle Manure and Mineral Fertilizer on Climbing Bean Production and Soil Properties Changes in Musanze District, Rwanda

DURATION

September 2010 to August 2012

RESEARCH TEAM (MSc Student 5)

Researcher: Nadia Musaninkindi (Rwandese)

Supervisor: Prof. Benson E. Mochoge; Kenyatta University

Supervisor: Dr. Jean Jacques Mbonigada Muhinda (Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources)

Supervisor: Dr. Isaac Osuga; Kenyatta University

BACKGROUND

Agriculture remains unproductive due to intensive exploitation of shrinking land brought about mainly by high population density. In that context, 56% of farm households in Rwanda exploit less than 0.5 hectare and with no simultaneous measures to maintain soil health, which results in soil fertility decline (MINAGRI, 2004). Though expensive to small scale farmers, mineral fertilizers are still not efficiently used in terms of rates, time of application as well as choice of the right fertilizer. Cattle manure, as one of farm available organic resources is not well managed in order to transfer its benefits to soils (Uphoff et al., 2006; Azeez and Van Averbeke, 2010). Moreover, the combination of mineral and organic fertilizers is not well understood by smallholder farmers, yet its results in increased yields and good soil conditions. The important contribution of climbing beans in livelihood improvement is also being negatively affected by such inadequate use of inputs.

OBJECTIVES

This study evaluated the effect of organic and inorganic fertilizers on climbing beans yield as well as soil properties. The study is completed and thesis under examination.

For more information contact: "Nadia Musaninkindi" < nadiev2002@yahoo.fr>