

Foreword

This publication has had an interesting history. The first edition was published in 1998, proved to be popular in the planting community, and went through several reprints. Translations were prepared in Bahasa Indonesia by Taryo Adiwiganda, Spanish by José Espinosa and Thai by Chairat Nilnont, Therapong Channiyom, Prakit Thongkum, and Thera Akesomtharameth. Jean Pierre Caliman then prepared an improved version in French, which was translated back into English as the basis for this edition. We have changed the structure by providing the photographs as an extended appendix and we have now included information on nutrient deficiencies in legume cover plants. We look forward to receiving comments and insights from field workers.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Peter Biggins of CIRAD for translating the French edition back into English, Sin Chee Tham for her high standards of typesetting and design, and Don Williams for careful proofreading. We would also like to thank Julie Mae Pasuquin for editorial assistance and Doris Tan for secretarial support.

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Abbreviations used throughout this publication

ADP	Adenosine diphosphate
ATP	Adenosine triphosphate
CEC	Cation exchange capacity. The ability of a soil to retain or 'hold onto' cations such as Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , and K^+ .
cmol/kg	Centimols per kilogram, the international standard equivalent of meq/kg
COS	Confluent orange spotting
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
ECEC	Effective cation exchange capacity, but measured at soil pH and thus a better indicator of exchange capacity in acid soils
Field	A field is the smallest unit in the estate. Sometimes referred to as a block
GIS	Geographical information system
GML	Ground magnesium limestone
GOS	Genetic orange spotting
GPS	Global positioning system
LCP	Legume cover plant

LSU	An LSU is a group of blocks so similar in terms of soil, planting material and palm age that it can be considered a single entity for the purpose of preparing fertilizer recommendations. Sometimes referred to as a fertilizer management unit. In some companies, an LSU refers to an individual leaf sample.
LSU palm	An LSU palm is a palm that has been identified and marked for the purpose of leaf sampling, vegetative measurements, deficiency symptom assessment, soil sampling, black bunch counts, environment and pest and disease surveys.
MCY	Mid-crown yellowing
mg/kg	Milligrams per kilogram
PCS	Petiole cross-section
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RRP	Reactive rock phosphate
SOP	Potassium sulfate
SSP	Single superphosphate
TSP	Triple superphosphate
YAP	Years after planting