

CASHEW PRODUCTION

i) Land Preparation and holing

Plough the land well, removing all stems and roots.

Dig holes - 30cmx30cmx40cm deep

Top and bottom soils put separately

Mix the top soil with 1bucket of well-rotted manure or composite and 150gms/,,,,, DAP/hole

ii) .Spacing: -12 x 12m.

iii) Direct Planting of Seeds:

Mix the top soil with 1bucket of well-rotted manure or compost manure, nematocide as per manufacturers recommendation,150gm DAP/hole and 3 seeds/ hole.

iv) Nursery Establishment(cuttings

Raising seedlings in polybags in the nursery has the advantages in that it is easier to water the seedlings properly especially during the dry season, Seedlings in polybags should be transplanted 6 weeks after sowing

v) Transplanting

Transplanted 6 weeks after sowing in order to avoid damage to the taproot,.

Watering: every 3-4 days during the 1st 6 months, reduce to once every week for 1 year after transplanting depending on weather conditions.

vi) Intercropping:

This can be done before the canopies close. Bananas, pawpaws, food crops (maize, cassava, cowpeas) and vegetables can be planted between the rows in the first 5 years.

NB Avoid cotton and sweet potatoes, which are host plants for Helopeltis bugs, major pests of cashew

vii) Weeding:

Keep the area around the tree (1 ½ times the size of the canopy) should be kept clean of weeds for the first 2 years to avoid competition.



Fertilization

The application of nitrogen and phosphate are important. Approximately 75 g CAN and 200 g superphosphate per

year age of the tree is applied annually with a maximum of 750 g CAN and 2 kg superphosphate. Cashew trees are subject to zinc deficiency that can be treated with 200 g zinc oxide/100 l water applied as a leaf spray.

viii) Pest and disease control

Major pests and their control

Pests	Symptoms	Control	PHOTO OF THE PEST
Cashew nut bug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Eggs on the young twigs – Suck sap from young leaves, shoots and young nuts and apples 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Spray with recommended – insecticide e.g. Lebaycid 	
Stem borer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adult bore into the wood causing severe damage even death of the tree – Beetle causes damage on branches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Push a flexible wire into the tunnels to kill the larvae and adult. – Drench with systemic pesticide e.g. Confidor 	
Stem girdler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ring round the branch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Drenching with systemic pesticide e.g. Confidor – Destroy them at site 	



Other minor pests





The cashew weevil (*Mecocorynus loripes*)


Red-banded thrips (*Selenothrips rubrocinctus*)

Mealybugs (*Pseudococcus longispinus*)

Major diseases and their control and their control

Diseases	Symptoms		Chemical Control / Treatment

<p>Powdery Mildew</p>	<p>- Infected panicles and leaves are coated with white, powdery fungal growth .vering) occurs on the tender leaves, young --shoo In severe attacks the entire panicle may be infected and the fruit and nuts fail to set.</p>		<p>- Spray with chemicals e.g. Bayfolan</p>
<p>Anthrax nose</p>	<p>Black spots on attacked young plant tissues which turns black and dies -Concentric rings on apples</p>		<p>Spray with chemicals e.g. Antracol, Kocide</p>
<p>Die back on the leaf</p>			
<p>Die back on the branches</p>			

Blights			
Blights		