

Supplementary Files

Table S1. Yields (t ha⁻¹) of apple (*Malus pumila*) and crops in alley cropping and sole crops in Exp.2 (2014). The crop yields in alley cropping systems were expressed per unit of crop area.

Species	Cropping System	Year after Establishment								
		First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Ninth
Peanut	Mono	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a	3.20±0.10a
	Inter	3.17±0.09a	3.10±0.11a	3.14±0.07a	3.04±0.05a	3.08±0.04a	3.02±0.05a	2.89±0.01a	2.54±0.03b	2.70±0.01b
Millet	Mono	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a	3.38±0.10a
	Inter	3.26±0.09a	3.22±0.05a	3.28±0.11a	3.22±0.05a	3.25±0.07a	3.11±0.04a	2.89±0.00b	2.64±0.02b	2.23±0.02b
Maize	Mono	11.71±0.66a	11.71±0.66a	11.71±0.66a	11.71±0.66a	11.71±0.66a	11.71±0.66a	11.71±0.66a	11.71±0.66a	--
	Inter	11.36±0.55a	11.41±0.53a	11.26±0.47a	11.14±0.32a	10.94±0.29a	10.41±0.12a	9.24±0.07b	6.57±0.06b	--
Apple	Mono	--	--	--	--	--	2.71±0.15a	3.88±0.20a	8.22±0.37a	14.19±0.35a
	Associated with Peanut	--	--	--	--	--	2.63±0.16a	3.80±0.20a	8.03±0.39a	14.04±0.33a
	Associated with Millet	--	--	--	--	--	2.58±0.16a	3.75±0.19a	7.88±0.42a	13.87±0.33a
	Associated with Maize	--	--	--	--	--	2.54±0.18a	3.64±0.21a	7.85±0.47a	13.87±0.34a

Mono means the crop or apple in the monoculture; Inter means the crop in the alley cropping. Same small letter indicates no significantly difference between monoculture and alley cropping systems, among apple plantation systems at $p = 0.05$.