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A CASE STUDY

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Performance of turmeric in cashew plantation as intercrop compared to sole cropping

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ABSTRACT: A field investigation was undertaken during 2011-12 to assess the performance of turmeric under cashew plantation as intercrop compared to sole cropping in open area. An experiment was laid out in cashew plantation spaced at 6 m × 6 m by utilizing of 16 m² (4 m × 4 m) area and replicated thrice with similar management under both management conditions. Significantly higher fresh weight of rhizome (353.52 g/clump), number secondary rhizome (27.97) and clump size (201.24 cm²) of turmeric var. PTS-24 was recorded under sole cropping compared to intercropping (271.83 g/clump, 25.53 and 157.88 cm², respectively) under cashew plantation. Interception of PAR (Photosynthetically Active Radiation) by turmeric crop at 150 days after planting as intercrop in cashew plantation was 27390 Lux compared to 30876 Lux in open condition. Due to shade loving nature of turmeric plants growth was significantly higher under cashew intercropping and yield was recorded higher under open situation.

KEY WORDS: Cashew, Turmeric, Intercropping, PAR (Photosynthetically Active Radiation)

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