

Possible cropping pattern for rainfed condition of Bay Islands

Soil and soil conditions	Cropping patterns for different situations	Specific remarks
Light textured uplands or medium lands	- Early rice (May – August) – fodder cowpea / rice bean (Sept. – Dec.)	Best suited for the farmers having fodder problem
	Early rice (May – August) – fodder maize / sorghum + cowpea (Sept.- Jan.)	
	- Early rice (May – August) – ground-nut (Sept.- Jan)	Best suited for islands like Little, Neil and Havelock
	- Early rice (may – August) – Maize + blackgram (sept. January)	
	- Early rice (may – Agust) – early rice (Sept. – Dec.) Sesamum + blackgram (Jan.- April)	Most suited to mitigate the problem of stray cattle
Medium textured uplands or medium lands	Early rice (May – August) – early rice (Sept. – Dec.) – Sorghum / maize + Blackgram / cowpea (Jan. April)	Sorghum / maize may be grown for grain of forage purpose as per the need. Most appropriate system for maintaining soil health
	Early rice (May- August) – early rice (Sept. – Dec.) Blackgram/ greengram/ cowpea / horsegram (Jan.- Apr.)	
	Early rice (April/ May – early August) – Medium rice (August – Dec.) – Sesame / blackgram/greengram/ cowpea/ forage legume (Jan.- April)	May be adopted as per the socio- economic needs.
	Medium / medium late rice (May – Nov.) – Sorghum / maize + Black gram / cowpea (Dec.- March/April)	Sorghum / maize may be raised for grain as well as forage purpose as per the needs. Most suited for areas approachable or nearby market
	-Early rice (May-Aug.) – medium late rice (Aug.- Dec.) – Vegetable cowpea/ Bhendi	
	Medium or heavy textured low lands	- Medium / medium late rice (May – Nov.) – Sesamum + Blackgram (Dec./ Jan.- March / April).
- Medium / medium late rice (May – Nov.)- Blackgram / greengram/ cowpea (Dec. Jan.- March./ April)		-- do ---
- Late rice (May – Dec.) – Maize / sorghum / sesamum / pulses/ forage legumes (Jan. Apr.)		The second crop may be selected as per the conditions and needs
- Very early rice (April / May – July/ Augu.) – Medium rice (Aug.- Dec.) Pulses / forage legumes (Jan. April)		Suited for the lands having drainage facilities.