Performance of ginger 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 ginger under cashew plantation as intercrop compared to sole cropping in open area. The 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. Ginger was also grown as sole crop in open area under similar management conditions. Growth of ginger as intercrop in cashew plantation was significantly higher for plant height, pseudostem diameter, number of tillers and leaf area index at 180 DAP. Significantly higher fresh weight of rhizome (137.77 g/clump), number secondary rhizome (21.05) and clump size (97.40 cm²) was recorded under sole cropping compared to intercropping (103.16 g/clump, 14.83 and 90.56 cm², respectively) in cashew plantation. Interception of PAR (Photosynthetically Active Radiation) by ginger crop at 150 days after planting (DAP) as intercrop in cashew plantation was 25774 Lux compared to 29200 Lux in open area.

KEY WORDS: Cashew, Ginger, Intercropping, PAR