Biointensive project: food alternative in the **Central American Dry** Corridor

A set of agroecological practices, technologies and principles for the production of healthy and diversified food in small spaces, which have helped achieve the food security of rural families in the Central American Dry Corridor.



Biointensive cultivation for families of the Dry Corridor The implemented initiative

The initiative was developed in 105 communities in Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador, with the financial support of FONTAGROBID and executed by Amigos de la Tierra España, el Instituto de Promoción Humana, Somoto (INPRHU-Somoto), Universidad Nacional Agraria (UNA), Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH) y Asociación de Desarrollo Pespirense (ADEPES). The objective was to improve the availability of sufficient and healthy food, promoting innovative techniques of sustainable intensification through the biointensive cultivation method. The method was promoted, validated and disseminated among families, promoters, technicians, students. Increased availability, productivity and diversification of healthy foods, soil conservation and restoration, training, research and scaling.

Biointensive orchard: a sustainable alternative

The technological solution

The biointensive cultivation method is a set of smallscale horticultural principles. It began to develop in California in the 1970s by Ecology Action, through processes of education and biointensive research, which have allowed to develop and refine this form of production. The method consists of implementing adapted principles in the dry corridor such as: double digging, close sowing, transplanting and double transplanting, composting and application, use of open pollination seed, among others.

The result is an organic agriculture that not only produces nutritious and organic food, but also improves soil fertility, allowing to take advantage of land not considered suitable for agriculture. This method has allowed producers to be trained through training and replication on the method, to establish biointensive gardens with drip irrigation systems and water harvesting and to guarantee the storage and exchange of adapted seed.

Main result statistics

Training on the biointensive method Biointensive orchards established Drip irrigation systems Banks and seed exchange





A Flourish data visualisation



34 training workshops on biointensive production and

206 replicas with beneficiaries have been developed.

This allowed 953 producers (514 women) to establish

which total 2,120 terraces that occupy at least 10,000

m2, with a production of 76.5 tm / year of food, which

will grow as a result of new areas, orchards, items,

biointensive orchards (493 with efficient irrigation),

irrigation and water harvest.

The availability and diversification of healthy food for families was improved, in greater time and less space, with the establishment of biointensive orchards and irrigation systems, banks and seed exchanges and the implementation of good practices.

Main donors









Results











493

orchards with efficient irrigation systems

953

established biointensive orchards

1453 participants in training and replicas

1474 benefited by banks and seed exchanges