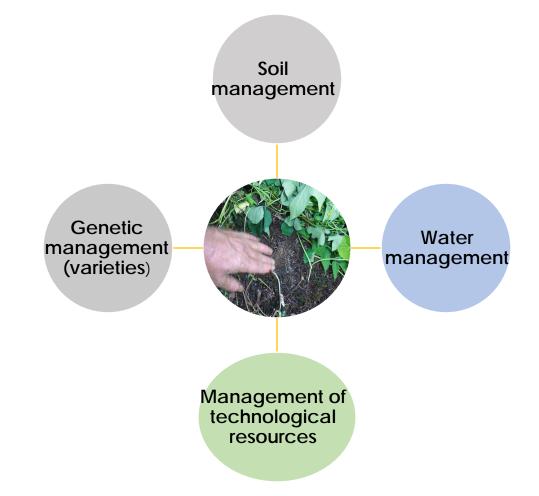
#### **MONSOL S.A sustainable coffee farm**



EXPERIENCES FOR SUSTAINABLE COFFEE FARMING & VALUE ADDING VIA a MICRO-SCALE COFFEE MILL IN Los SANTOS ZONE of COSTA RICA

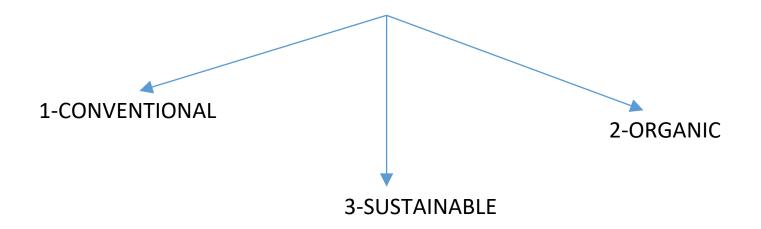
Juan R. Montero Gamboa & Ing. Gabriel Umaña AEA León Cortés

# Management components at the farm



## Types of production implemented on the farm

Farm soils characterised as clayey, acid, low in organic matter & on steep slopes



## **Cultural soil practices**

All those that promote life in the soil



# Cultural soil practices

Eliminating herbicide use

Giving priority to growth of desirable ground cover plants

Control by mechanical/manual slashing & applying biofermented products to cut green material



Incorporating other organic waste from the farm

Horse manure, waste from livestock feeding stalls, worm compost





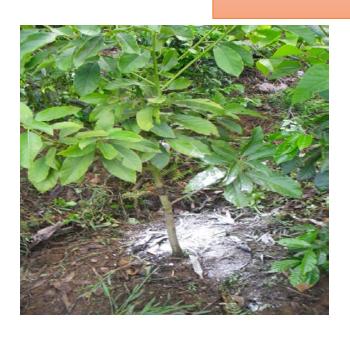








**Enriched soil amendments** 





## **COVER CROPS & MULCHES**

Control of ground cover vegetation

Done by mechanical means

An estimated 35 tons of green material generated per cutting cycle per manzana [50 tons per ha]





#### **Common names in Spanish**

Alambrillo o avioneta

Zacate de agua o Guardagua

**Zacate peludo** 

**Zacate King Grass** 

**Zacate calinguero** 

Zacate estrella

Culantrillo o Anís de ratón

Cola de caballo

Lechuguilla, Margarita amarilla

Lechuguilla o Cerrajilla

Tora blanca

Berrillo, Berro de tierra

Güitite

Burio

Sornia

Santa Lucia, Flor azul

Mozote, Moriseco, Mozote negro

Catalina

Escobilla

Verbena

Llantén

Helechillo

Mora, Zarzamora

**Tomatillo** 

Zorrillo

Cardón

Churristate

#### SELECTIVE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

All the plants which grow on the farm have different purposes









Vegetation slashing in November before the start of harvest

Comparison of a conventional coffee grove in November before the start of harvest

## **SHADE MANAGEMENT**



#### DISTRIBUTION OF BRANCHES & LEAVES WITHIN THE CROP





## **DRAINAGE**







#### **PLANT & SOIL NUTRITION**

#### WE USE:

1- Incorporation of green material (slashings) 30-35 tons per *manzana* [43-50 tons per ha]

2- Estimated 4.9 tons leaves & branches of *poró* shade tree generated by two

prunings per year

- 3- In row calcium carbonate /enriched amendments
- 4- Synthetic fertiliser complete formula
- 5- Worm compost tea + biofertiliser
- 6- Trichoderma [beneficial fungus] + wormery 'juice'



## We are guided by:

- > Plant observation
- > Climate & weather
- > Chemical soil analysis
- > Soil chromatography









#### PRODUCTION of BIOFERMENTS





### PREPARATION of SULFO-CALCIUM





Pure sulfo-calcium



sulfo-calcium with biofertiliser



# ADDED VALUE MICRO-PROCESSING PLANT 3rd GENERATION





The farm is an opportunity for coffee growers to compare and take away knowledge so they can improve their production methods

