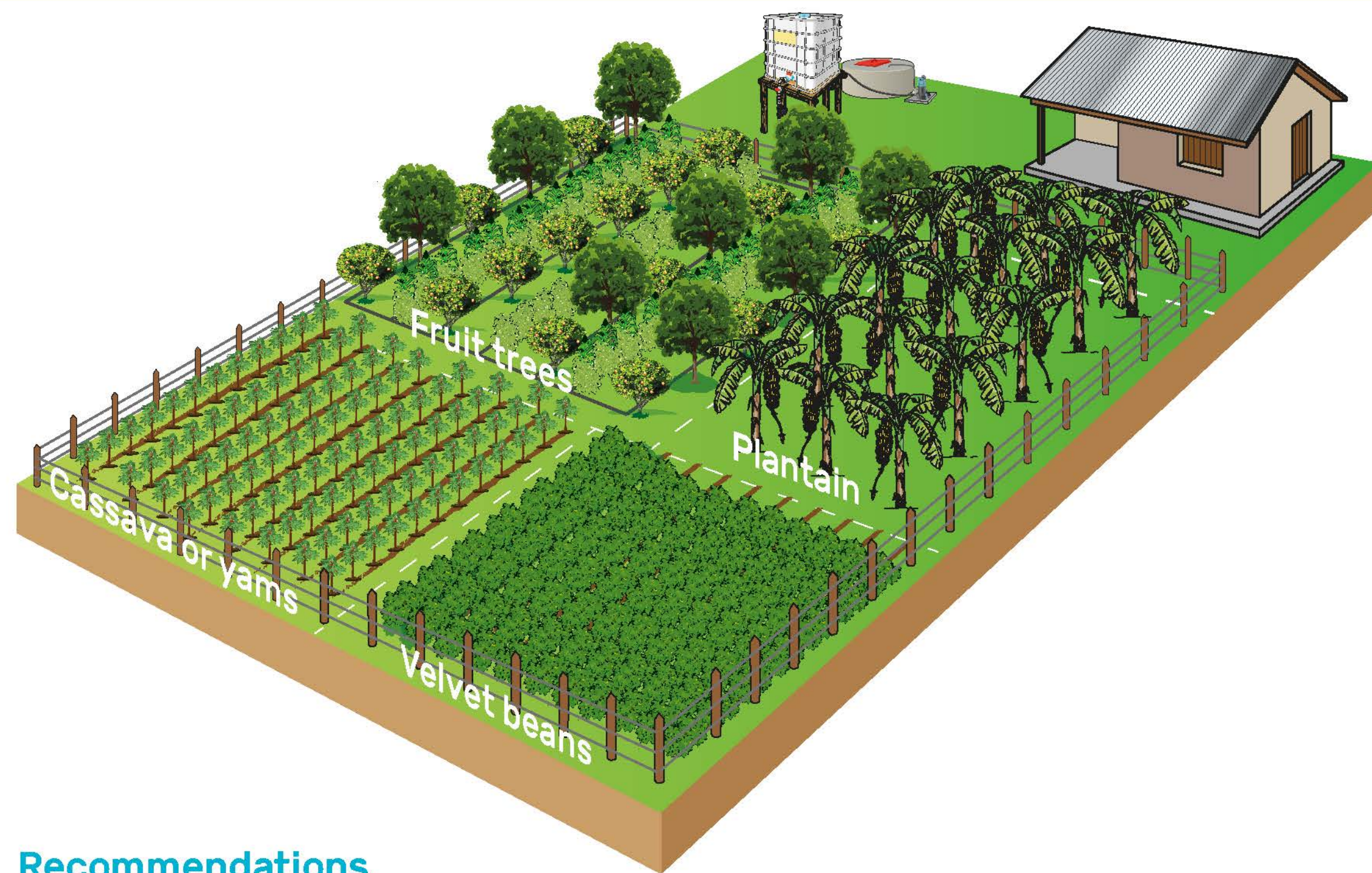


## Purpose of crop diversification

- If you plant a field with just one crop and a pest specific to that crop arrives, you can lose your entire harvest. However, on a diversified farm with a variety of different crops, pests can get confused and in any case will only damage one part of your production.
- Additionally, companion planting with different types of crops like creepers, plants, bushes and trees allows you to take better advantage of the space available.
- Since crops ripen at different times, a diversified farm will allow you to harvest during most, if not all, of the year, which will improve family food security.

Materials	Quantity
Drip irrigation system (for 1/4 mza.)	1
Rolls of barbed wire and staples	3
Posts	115
Plantain plants	100
Fruit trees	45
Cassava (one stalk, less than a metre high)	50
Yams	1 sack of 600 cuttings
Pineapple	50
Tools (machete, file, digging bar)	1



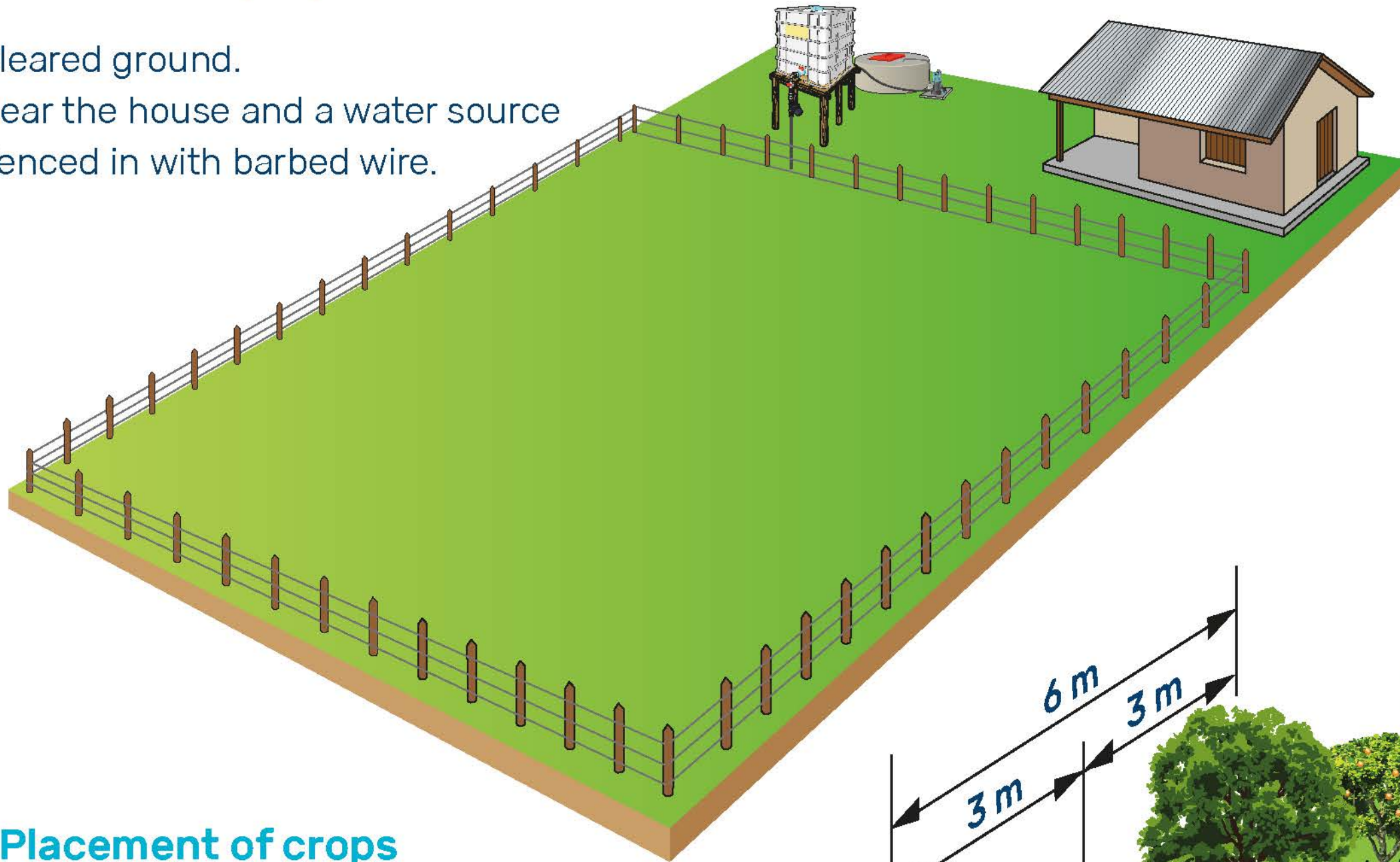
## Recommendations

- The family must own at least half a manzana (0.35 ha.) of land.
- There should be a well with a pump or some other water source (reservoir) for irrigation.
- It's best to buy two-year-old grafted fruit trees from nurseries.
- For fruit trees that grow very large, like mango and avocado, it's best to plant at a distance of 6 x 6 metres.
- It's better to choose fruit trees that are adapted to the area (climate and soil).
- Instead of using drip lines as an irrigation system, use a 16 mm-diameter polyethylene hose because they're more resistant and rodents won't eat them.
- Drippers and filters must be cleaned constantly, and the irrigation system should be dismantled during the rainy season so it won't get ruined.
- The number of fruit trees you plant should relate to the quantity of fruit that you can sell locally or can add value to.
- It's best to start the plantation at the beginning of the rainy season to benefit from five to six months of rain without having to water.
- Plant according to the phases of the moon.

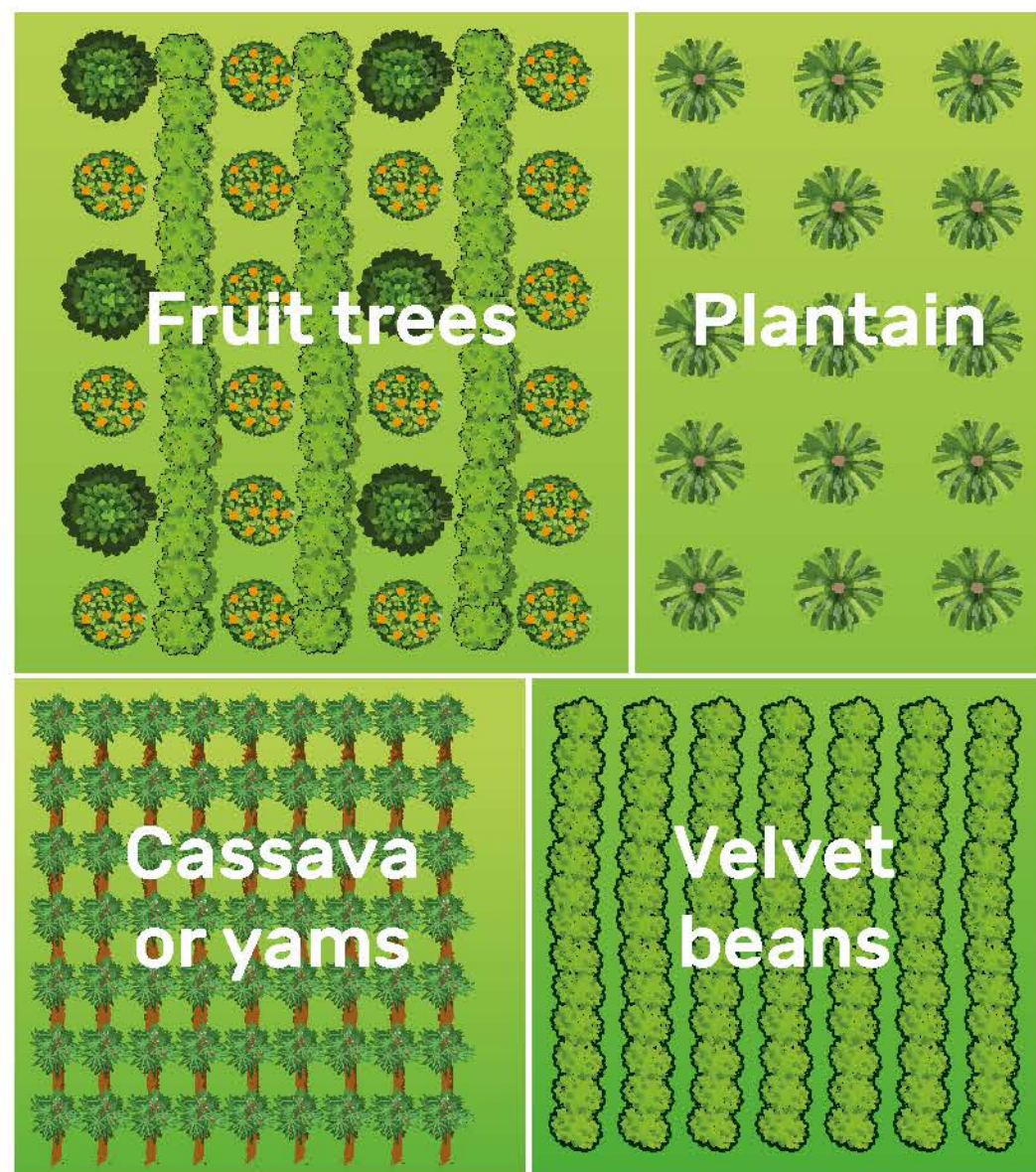
# Step by step: Crop diversification

## 1. Choose and prepare the terrain

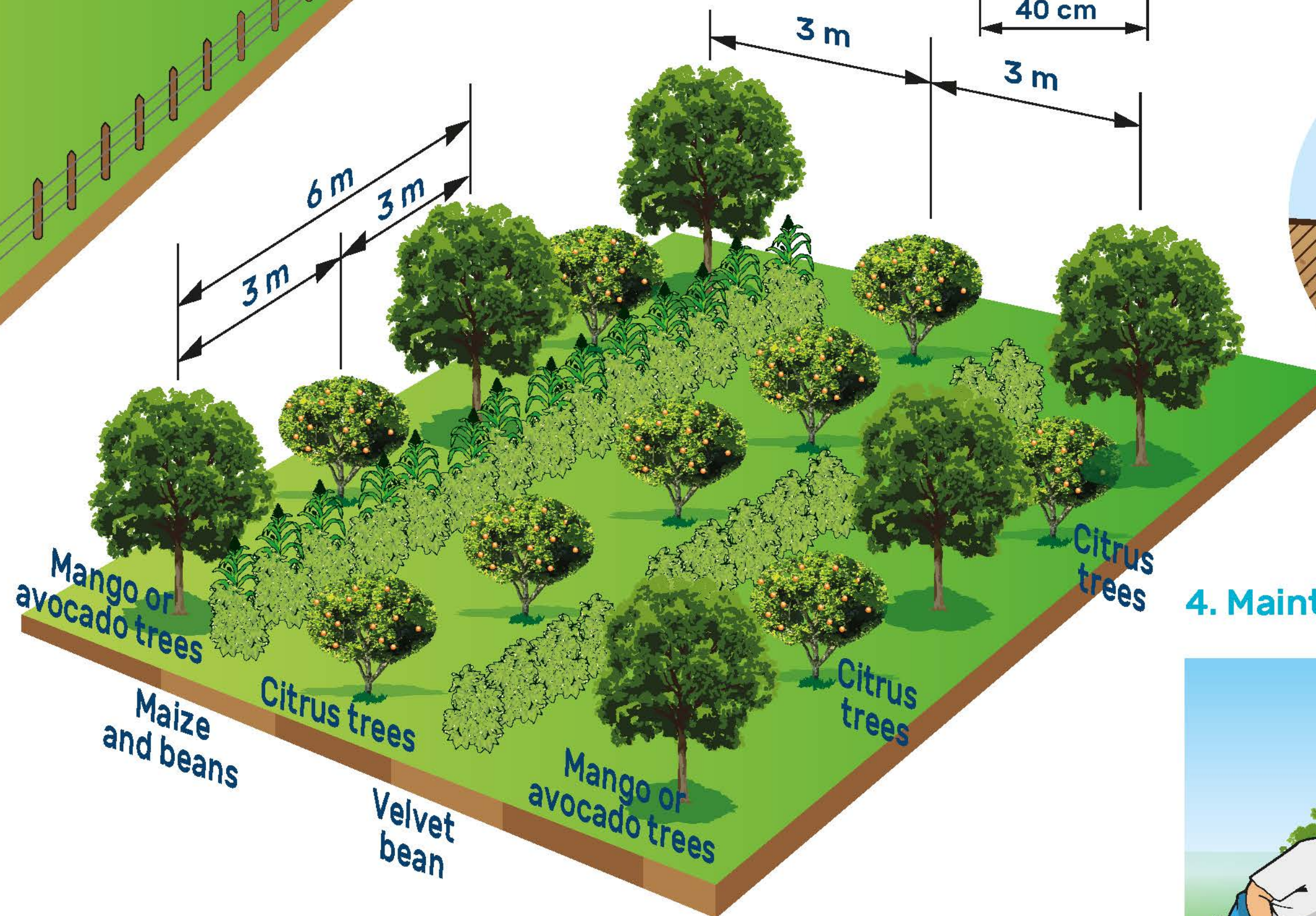
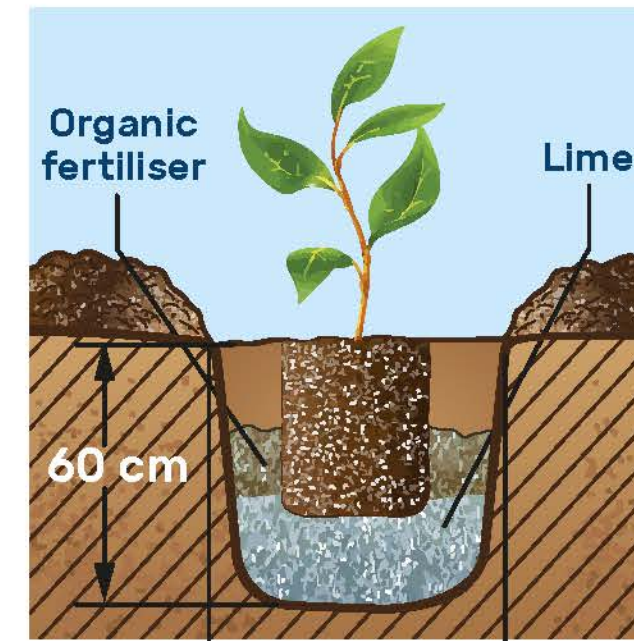
- Cleared ground.
- Near the house and a water source
- Fenced in with barbed wire.



## 2. Placement of crops



## 3. Improved planting holes



Orchard block

## 4. Maintenance

