

EFFECT OF IRRIGATION TREATMENTS OF YIELD AND QUALITY ON SOYBEAN AND MAIZE GROWN UNDER DIFFERENT INTERCROPPING PATTERNS

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ABSTRACT

Two field trials were conducted in 2010 and 2011 to determine the effect of regimes irrigation on yield and its components for the maize-soybean intercropping patterns. The experimental was based on split plot in a randomized complete block design with three replications. The main plots consisted of three different irrigation regimes, (I_1) irrigation during all growth stage as control treatment, (I_2) withholding irrigation at the flowering stage and (I_3) withholding irrigation at the pod stage. The sub-plots included three intercropping patterns (T_1)=growing soybean on both sides of beds (140 cm) and planting one row of maize on the back of the bed (50cm between hills, 1 plant) ,(T_2)=growing soybean on both sides of beds and planting one row of maize on the back of the bed and leave another bed (50cm between hills, 2 plants) and (T_3)= growing soybean on both sides of beds and planting one row of maize on back of the bed and leave another bed (25cm between hills, 2plants) Data showed that:

- 1- Whole irrigation gave the highest yield and yield components of maize/soybean intercropping. Whereas, withholding irrigation at the early flowering stage gave the lower yield and yield components.
- 2- Intercropping maize with soybean surpassed yield and yield components when used all beds, 50 cm between hills and left one plant /hill.
- 3- Interactions effect of irrigation x intercropping on maize indicated that, the treatments of $I_1 \times T_1$ gave the highest values for all traits studied, whereas, the lowest value was recorded with $I_2 \times T_3$.
- 4- Results showed that, Land Equivalent Ratio was the highest with the treatment of $I_1 \times T_1$ (1.24, 1.16 and 1.20) in both seasons and the combined analysis, respectively, also, the same interaction recorded the highest net return (3303.07, 2750.35 and 3026.71) in both seasons and the combined analysis, respectively.

Keywords: Soybean, intercropping, maize, irrigation regimes

INTRODUCTION

Soybean was the crop with multilateral application- for fodders, foods, industrials, medicines, and ecological purposes. According to Zolotitzkii (1962) not other plant in the world, that can produce during 100 - 120 days so many proteins and oil, so can give the soybean and not yet other plant that can compete with soybean about the numbers of the producing products.

Excluding economical factors, the drought is the most important factor, limiting grain production not only in our country, but in a world scale. A lot of studies were directed to evaluation the plants physiological adaptation to the water stress (Goranova and Todorova, 2005).

Soil water is the most crucial factor in arid and semi-arid regions and yield potential is directly a function of water available for plant growth.

Drought has been the major environmental constraint to plant survival and to crop productivity, Boyer (1983).

Soybean can be grown only under assured irrigation and it needs about 6-8 irrigations.. The soybean should be irrigated at the following critical growth stages such as flowering, pod initiation and seed filling period. It is observed that maximum reduction in yield, due to drought stress that occurred during the pod set and seed filling period (Desclaux, 2000; Ashley, and. Ethridge, 1978 and Abayomi, 2008) and water stress at flowering and/or pod development increased flower and pod abortion, Osborne *et al.*, (2002)

The intercropped soybean yields were less for all intercropping arrangements than the monocropped soybean yield. (Neupane, R. K. 1983.) Intercrop systems may improve yield stability, allowing more consistent yields (Willey, 1980 and Fukai and Trenbath, 1993), and efficient use of the resources, allowing reductions in costly inputs (Morris and Garrity, 1993).

The objective of this investigation was to study the effect of irrigation regimes and intercropping patterns and their interactions on yield and its components as well as Land equivalent ratio .

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present investigation was carried out at the farm of El-Gemmiza Agriculture Research Station, Agriculture Research Center, Egypt, during the two successive growing summer seasons 2010 and 2011 to study the effect of three irrigation regimes and three intercropping patterns on the productivity of maize (Three way Cross.310) and soybean (Giza 111).

The experiments were laid out in a split plot design with three replications, three irrigation practices (I) were randomly allocated in the main plots:

The main plots consisted of three different irrigation regimes(I) .

(I₁) : Irrigation during all growth stages as control treatment.

(I₂) : Withholding irrigation at the flowering stage.

(I₃) : Withholding irrigation at the beginning pod.

The sub-plots were randomly assigned by three Intercropping patterns (T)::

(T₁) = Growing soybean on both sides of beds (140cm and planting one row of maize on the back of the bed (50 cm between hills, 1 plant)

(T₂) = Growing soybean on both sides of beds and planting one row of maize on the back of the bed and leave another bed (50 cm between hills, 2 plants)

(T₃) = Growing soybean on both sides of beds and planting one row of maize on the back of the bed and leave another bed (25 cm between hills, 1 plant)

(25 cm between hills and thinned to 1 plant/hill).

All the previous patterns resulted in 6000 of maize plants. Each sub-plot included of 4 beds, each plot was 3 m long and 5.6 m wide (16.8 m²). The preceding winter crop was wheat in the two seasons. Soybean was planted on May 15th and 25th May through 2010 and 2011 seasons, respectively. Maize was planted at the same date of planting soybean. Soybean was thinned to 2 plants/hills with distance of 10 cm between hill. All another cultural practices for both maize and soybean production were undertaken as

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Y_{ab} intercrop yield of crop "a".

Y_{bb} pure stand yield of crop "b".

Y_{ba} intercrop yield of crop "b".

Z_{ab} and Z_{ba} are sown proportions of crop "a" and "b" in an intercropping system.

Land Equivalent Ratio (LER). The ratio of area need under sole cropping to that of intercropping at the same management level to produce an equivalent yield, according to Mead and Willey (1980). It is calculated as follows:

$$LER = LER_a + LER_b$$

$$LER_a = Y_{ab}/Y_{aa}$$

$$LER_b = Y_{ba}/Y_{bb}$$

Relative crowding coefficient. Relative crowding coefficient was proposed by Dewit (1960), which was calculated by the following formula:

$$K = (K_a \times K_b)$$

$$K_a = Y_{ab} \times Z_{ba} / (Y_{aa} - Y_{ab}) \times Z_{ab}$$

$$K_b = Y_{ba} \times Z_{ab} / (Y_{bb} - Y_{ba}) \times Z_{ba}$$

Where,

K_a and K_b = Relative crowding coefficient for the component crop "a and b". All other abbreviations such as Y_{aa} , Y_{ab} , Z_{ab} , Z_{ba} , have been described above in this section.

Aggressivity value. Aggressivity value was calculated by the formula proposed by McGilchrist (1965).

$$A_{ab} = \frac{Y_{ab}}{Y_{aa} \times Z_{ab}} - \frac{Y_{ba}}{Y_{bb} \times Z_{ba}}$$

Where,

A_{ab} = Aggressivity value for the component crop "a".

All other abbreviations have been described above in this section.

Competitive ratio. Competitive ratio (CR) was calculated by the formula proposed by Willey *et al.* (1980).

$$CR_a = \frac{Y_{ab}}{Y_{aa} \times Z_{ab}} \div \frac{Y_{ba}}{Y_{bb} \times Z_{ba}}$$

Where,

CR_a = Competitive ratio for the component crop "a".

Farmer's benefit was calculated.

Total return-Price of maize yield+price of soybean yield(L.E.).

To calculate the total return, the average of the maize grain and soybean seeds prices presented by Agricultural Statisties(2010) ,Economic Affairs Sector.

Net return/faddan-total return-(fixed cost of soybean+ variable cost of both crops according to intercropping patterns)

Data statistically analyzed as the technique analysis of variance (ANOVA) of split- plot design as mentioned by Gomez and Gomez (1984). Treatment means were compared using the Least Significant Difference (LSD at 5%) test as outlined by Waller and Duncan (1969).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

I-Effect of IRRIGATION regimes and intercropping patterns on Maize Yield:

Results in Table (2) showed that, significant effects due to irrigation treatments for plant height, ear length, 100-kernels weight, grain yield/ear and grain yield/fed. in both seasons and the combined analysis. Normal irrigation (I_1) recorded the highest values for all traits studied, followed by I_3 , in both seasons and the combined data. While, the lowest values for all traits studied recorded with I_2 treatment in both seasons and the combined data. It may be due to the reduction at different irrigation cycles can be assigned to LAI reduction and decline of photosynthesis in order to filling of seeds that caused decreasing of seed weights, Nejad *et al.*, (2010).

Rafiee *et al.*, (2007) stated that relative moisture content of leaf at time of flowering of corn plant have high correlation with seed function, negative correlation between drought tension with leaf surface index and potential of leaf water have provided reduction of leaf surface and reduction of photosynthesis at leaf water unit at level of sinking and result, reduction of supplying processed substances and negative effect of it on seed production in maize was led to the result of seed performance reduction.

Water stress decreased grain yield by decreasing stem height, number of grain per cob and 1000-grain weight, Khan *et al.*, (2001).

Concerning intercropping patterns, data revealed that, plant height recorded the highest value with T_2 , followed by T_1 , whereas the lowest value was recorded with T_3 . These results due to wide distance between maize plants and higher competition between two plants (T_2) compared to one plants (T_1). Ear length, recorded the highest value with T_2 , followed by T_3 , while the lowest value was recorded with T_1 . On the other hand, 100-kernels weight, grain yield/ear and grain yield/fed., the highest value was recorded with T_1 , followed by T_2 whereas T_3 recorded lowest value.

The interaction between irrigation regimes x intercropping patterns on all studied traits had significant effects in both seasons and in the combined data. The maximum values of plant height and ear length were recorded by the interaction of $I_1 \times T_2$ as shown as in Table 2. On the other hand, the interaction of $I_1 \times T_1$ recorded the highest 100-kernels weight; grain yield/ear and grain yield/fed. in both seasons and in the combined data. However, the lowest values of grain yield/fed. were recorded from the interaction between I_2 and T_3 .

II-Effect of Irrigation regimes and intercropping patterns on soybean Yield:

Results in Table (3) showed that, significant effects due to irrigation practices for no. of pods/plant, seed yield/plant and seed yield/fed. in both seasons and the combined analysis, while there were no significant differences between all irrigation regimes for plant height and 100-seed weight in both seasons and the combined analysis.

Treatment (I₁) recorded the highest seed yield/fed. in the combined data (846.33 kg/fed.), followed by treatment (I₃) (783.67 kg/fed.), Sawian *et al.* (2002) showed that, the highest irrigation treatment increased number of plant height and no.of pods/plant. Similar results were obtained by Sangakkara *et al* (2001). While, the lowest yield found at treatment withholding irrigation at the flowering stage (739.39 kg/fed.).

Brevedan and Egli (2003) found that, drought stress at any stage of soybean development can reduce yield, but the extent and degree of damage, the capacity for recovery, and the impact on yield and yield components depend on the timing of a stress episode. Similar findings have also been reported by Boyer (1983) and Westgate and Peterson (1993). In present research, when the stress occurred at flowering stage, all yield and yield components were reduced, based on results soybean yield is more sensitive to drought stress during the early reproductive stage (flowering stage than other developmental stages. Similar results found by Zolotitzkii (1962), Boyer (1983) and Westgate and Peterson (1993).

Drought at later stages when pod filling had begun reduced seed size, according to Munier-Jolain *et al.* (1998). The individual seed weight is a product of the rate and the duration of seed filling, it is generally determined during seed filling after the pod number had been fixed, Westgate and Peterson (1993).

Seed yield in soybean was not affected by the drought stress during the vegetative development stage, whereas single or multiple drought stress treatments applied during the reproductive development stages, pod elongation or seed enlargement resulted in significant reductions of seed yield by Demirtas *et al.* (2010).

The intercropping patterns effects were differed from season to another, this mean that there was no clear trend in this aspect on all studied traits, as the results of Table (3). The highest values of 100 seed weight and seed yield/plant were found with T₃ in both seasons and the combined data. While, the highest seed yield/fed was recorded with T₁ in both seasons and the combined data. On the other hand, there were no significant differences between T₁ and T₃ on seed yield/fed. in both seasons and the combined data. The interaction between irrigation regimes x intercropping patterns on all studied traits had significant effects in both seasons and in the combined data, except plant height. The interaction of I₁ x T₁ recorded the maximum values no. of pods/plant in the first seasons and the combined data, while the highest 100-seed weight and seed yield/fed were recorded with the interaction I₁ x T₃, as shown in Table (3). However, the lowest values of seed yield/fed. were recorded from the interaction between I₃ and T₂ in both seasons and the combined data.

III-Effect of Irrigation regimes and intercropping patterns on LER, RCC, Aggressivity and CR:

Effects of irrigation regimes, intercropping patterns and their interactions were recorded significant values of LER, RCC and Aggressivity in both seasons and their combined data, while, no significant differences between irrigation treatments on LER in the first season and combined data,

respectively, Also, there were no significant difference between intercropping patterns on RCC in the second season as shown as in Table (4).

In the same table, yield advantage in terms of LER varied from 1.02 to 1.12 in the combined data. These results indicate that, 2 to 12 %, greater area would be required by a sole cropping system to recover the yield of intercropping system, similar results found by Miyda *et al.* (2005).

Normal irrigation (I_1) recorded the highest values of LER, RCC in both seasons and the combined data. Also, intercropping patterns (T_1) recorded the highest values of LER, RCC in both seasons and the combined data. While, the interactions between $I_1 \times T_1$ were recorded the highest values of LER and RCC in both seasons and the combined data, as shown as in Table (4).

Data presented in Table (4) showed that, normal irrigation (I_1) recorded the highest values of CR in the second season and combined data. While, I_2 recorded the highest values of CR in the first season. Also, in the same table, the interactions between $I_1 \times T_3$ were recorded the highest values of CR in the second season and the combined data.

Table (4) reveals that the value of aggressivity of soybean was positive for all combinations. Although the aggressivity index of maize was not shown, but maize was considered as the less-dominant crop in the system. Positive value of aggressivity indicates to soybean, as dominant crops in the present study. So in soybean/maize intercropping, maize growth associated with legume crops like soybean can be a dominated crop. .

The economic return of intercropped maize with soybean as compared with solid plantings has been calculated (Table 5). The prices of the products used were the farm gate prices of maize grains and soybean seeds at 2011 season. Variable costs and total costs were estimated according to Agricultural Statistics Book (2010).

Solid soybean recorded average seed yield/fed for both seasons of (978.28 kg/fed.) and net return (L.E) was 1713.12 L.E., it means that, intercropping maize/soybean under irrigation regimes increased the net return on the average by about 873.70 per feddan than solid soybean, while solid maize recorded average grain yield/fed (25.165 ardab/fed) and net return (L.E.) was 3236.3 L.E., it means that, intercropping maize/soybean under irrigation regimes decreased net return on the average by about 649.48 L.E. than solid maize.

CONCLUSION

From this investigation it could be concluded that:

- 1-Whole irrigation gave the highest yield and yield components of maize/soybean intercropping. Whereas, withholding irrigation at the flowering stage gave the lowest yield and yield components.
- 2-Intercropping maize with soybean surpassed yield and yield components when used all beds/ 50 cm between hills ,and left one plant hill
- 3- Interactions effect of irrigation x intercropping on maize indicated that, the treatments of $I_1 \times T_1$ gave the highest values for all traits studied, whereas, the lowest value was recorded with $I_2 \times T_3$ in both seasons and the combined data.
- 4- Results showed that, Land Equivalent Ratio was the highest with the treatment of $I_1 \times T_1$ (1.24, 1.16 and 1.20) in both seasons and the combined analysis, respectively) and also, the same interaction recorded the highest net return (3303.07, 2750.35 and 3026.71) in both season and the combined analysis , respectively.

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تأثير معاملات الري ونظم التسميل المختلفة على المحصول ومكوناته لفول الصويا
والذرة المحملين
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أجريت تجربتان حقليةتان فى موسمى 2010، 2011 لتقدير تأثير نظم الري على المحصول ومكوناته للذرة وفول الصويا المحملين. استخدم تصميم القطع المنشقة مرة واحدة فى قطاعات كاملة العشوائية فى ثلاث مكررات. استخدمت نظم الري فى القطع الرئيسية بينما استخدمت القطع تحت شقية لنظم التسميل. نظم الري التى استخدمت هى (1) الري الكامل (2) حرمان الري اثناء فترة التزهير (3) حرمان الري اثناء فترة تكوين القرون.

استخدمت ثلاث نظم لتسميل الذرة مع الصويا:-

- 1 - زراعة فول الصويا على جانبي المصطبة (140سم) 100% وزراعة الذرة فى صف واحد على ظهر كل المصطبة 50 سم بين الجور والخف على نبات واحد بالجورة.
- 2- زراعة فول الصويا على جانبي المصطبة (140سم) 100% وزراعة الذرة فى صف واحد على ظهر مصطبة وترك المصطبة 50 سم بين الجور والخف على نباتين بالجورة.
- 3- زراعة فول الصويا على جانبي المصطبة (140سم) 100% وزراعة الذرة فى صف واحد على ظهر مصطبة المصطبة 25 سم بين الجور والخف على نبات واحد بالجورة.

أظهرت النتائج مايلى:-

- 1 أعطى الري الكامل لكلا المحصولين اعلا انتاجية للمحصول ومكوناته بينما الحرمان من الري اثناء فترة التزهير كان تأثيرها أكبر على نقص انتاجية المحصول ومكوناته.
- 2 أظهرت نتائج التسميل تفوق التسميل على كل المصاطب وترك مسافة 50 سم بين الجور وترك نبات واحد بالجورة.
- 3 أظهر التفاعل بين التسميل ونظم الري أن الري الكامل و التسميل على مصاطب وترك نبات واحد بالجورة اعلا انتاجية للمحصول.
- 4 أظهرت النتائج أن اعلى كفاءة استخدام الارض LER كانت مع المعاملة للري الكامل مع الزراعة على مصاطب 140سم على مسافة 50سم وترك نبات واحد بالجورة (1.24 ، 1.16 و 1.20) فى كلا الموسمين والتحليل المشترك، على الترتيب و كان صافى الايراد لتلك المعاملة هو (3303.07 ، 2750.35 و 3026.71) فى كلا الموسمين والتحليل المشترك، على الترتيب.

بتحكيم البحث

كلية الزراعة – جامعة المنصورة
مركز البحوث الزراعية

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Table (2): Effects of irrigations treatments, intercropping systems and their interactions on maize growth, and yield and its components in both seasons and their combined data.

Treatments	Plant height (cm)			Ear length (cm)			100-kernels weight			Grain yield/ear (g)			Grain yield/fed (ardab)		
	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.
Irrigation treatments															
I ₁	283.11	282.48	282.79	20.11	19.76	19.93	38.37	38.98	38.68	157.13	150.57	153.85	8.13	8.03	8.08
I ₂	274.42	276.41	275.42	17.29	17.23	17.26	33.46	35.55	34.51	140.81	134.88	137.84	7.01	6.99	7.00
I ₃	277.34	277.74	277.54	18.63	18.71	18.67	36.10	37.31	36.70	150.51	141.49	146.00	7.37	7.41	7.39
LSD 0.05	3.35	2.75	1.80	1.69	0.39	0.72	3.18	2.51	1.68	1.64	0.83	0.76	0.54	0.23	0.24
Intercropping patterns															
T ₁	278.83	279.99	279.41	17.63	18.28	17.96	36.79	38.41	37.60	151.98	145.22	148.60	7.65	7.94	7.80
T ₂	280.43	280.98	280.71	19.74	19.70	19.72	36.02	37.46	36.74	150.01	142.21	146.11	7.51	7.50	7.51
T ₃	275.61	275.67	275.64	18.66	17.72	18.19	35.11	35.97	35.54	146.46	139.50	142.98	7.35	6.98	7.16
LSD 0.05	1.39	0.96	0.80	0.88	0.50	0.48	1.82	ns	1.14	1.23	0.74	0.68	0.12	0.23	0.12
Interactions															
I ₁ x T ₁	282.83	282.87	282.85	18.02	19.07	18.54	39.56	40.55	40.06	160.24	153.80	157.02	8.32	8.80	8.56
I ₁ x T ₂	286.37	285.23	285.80	21.66	21.37	21.51	38.15	38.29	38.22	156.64	150.00	153.32	8.15	8.06	8.11
I ₁ x T ₃	280.13	279.33	279.73	20.66	18.83	19.75	37.39	38.11	37.75	154.51	147.90	151.21	7.92	7.22	7.57
I ₂ x T ₁	274.27	276.60	275.43	16.83	17.23	17.03	34.12	36.19	35.15	142.56	137.70	140.13	7.05	7.22	7.13
I ₂ x T ₂	277.17	279.53	278.35	18.14	18.07	18.11	33.37	36.22	34.80	141.91	135.53	138.72	7.03	7.00	7.02
I ₂ x T ₃	271.83	273.10	272.47	16.89	16.40	16.64	32.88	34.25	33.57	137.96	131.40	134.68	6.94	6.74	6.84
I ₃ x T ₁	279.40	280.50	279.95	18.04	18.53	18.29	36.69	38.49	37.59	153.14	144.17	148.66	7.59	7.80	7.70
I ₃ x T ₂	277.77	278.17	277.97	19.41	19.67	19.54	36.53	37.88	37.21	151.48	141.10	146.29	7.36	7.45	7.40
I ₃ x T ₃	274.87	274.57	274.72	18.42	17.93	18.18	35.07	35.56	35.32	146.91	139.20	143.06	7.17	6.98	7.08
LSD 0.05	2.41	1.66	1.39	1.52	0.87	0.83	3.16	2.71	1.97	2.14	1.29	1.18	0.20	0.41	0.21

-ns, * and **: Non significant, significant at 5 and 1% levels of probability, respectively.

Table (3): Effects of irrigations treatments, intercropping systems and their interactions on soybean growth, and yield and its components in both seasons and their combined data.

Treatments	Plant height (cm)			No.of pods/plant			100-Seed weight (g)			Seed weight/plant (g)			Seed yield /fed (Kg)		
	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.
Irrigation treatments															
I ₁	103.67	106.28	104.97	27.47	28.10	27.78	20.17	13.56	16.87	7.19	8.36	7.78	913.05	779.61	846.33
I ₂	104.96	105.73	105.34	20.93	24.70	22.82	19.83	11.09	15.46	5.77	9.40	7.58	858.82	619.95	739.39
I ₃	107.00	106.60	106.80	26.93	27.03	26.98	18.95	11.12	15.04	6.58	10.24	8.41	861.50	705.85	783.67
LSD 0.05	ns	ns	ns	4.61	3.19	2.33	ns	ns	ns	0.50	1.53	0.67	13.26	38.59	16.95
Intercropping patterns															
T ₁	107.80	104.73	106.27	27.63	25.84	26.74	19.29	12.26	15.78	6.52	8.20	7.36	894.76	708.46	801.61
T ₂	103.32	105.31	104.32	24.80	25.61	25.21	19.30	10.63	14.96	6.67	9.44	8.06	857.23	701.10	779.17
T ₃	104.50	108.57	106.53	22.90	28.38	25.64	20.37	12.88	16.62	6.34	10.36	8.35	881.38	695.85	788.62
LSD 0.05	3.52	4.10	ns	2.02	1.48	1.18	0.60	ns	1.34	ns	1.17	0.58	14.63	ns	13.36
Interactions															
I ₁ x T ₁	105.70	105.43	105.57	31.20	27.50	29.35	19.73	13.69	16.71	7.75	7.80	7.78	923.17	758.59	840.88
I ₁ x T ₂	101.00	104.48	102.74	27.40	26.89	27.15	19.98	11.07	15.52	7.31	8.50	7.91	899.64	785.11	842.38
I ₁ x T ₃	104.30	108.93	106.62	23.80	29.91	26.85	20.82	15.93	18.37	6.50	8.79	7.65	916.33	795.14	855.74
I ₂ x T ₁	107.70	104.43	106.07	22.00	23.23	22.62	19.48	11.68	15.58	5.50	8.10	6.80	877.30	648.69	762.99
I ₂ x T ₂	103.27	105.37	104.32	20.80	24.11	22.46	19.36	10.49	14.93	5.90	9.50	7.70	831.41	614.45	722.93
I ₂ x T ₃	103.90	107.40	105.65	20.00	26.77	23.39	20.65	11.09	15.87	5.90	10.60	8.25	867.77	596.71	732.24
I ₃ x T ₁	110.00	104.33	107.17	29.70	26.78	28.24	18.67	11.41	15.04	6.31	8.70	7.51	883.81	718.09	800.95
I ₃ x T ₂	105.70	106.09	105.90	26.20	25.83	26.02	18.56	10.32	14.44	6.81	10.31	8.56	840.63	703.75	772.19
I ₃ x T ₃	105.30	109.37	107.33	24.90	28.47	26.69	19.64	11.62	15.63	6.63	11.70	9.17	860.04	695.70	777.87
LSD 0.05	ns	ns	ns	3.50	2.55	2.05	1.04	4.78	2.31	0.64	2.02	1.00	25.33	41.80	23.15

-ns, * and **: Non significant, significant at 5 and 1% levels of probability, respectively.

Table (4): Effects of irrigations treatments, intercropping systems and their interactions on LER, RCC, Aggressivity and CR in both seasons and their combined data.

Treatments	LER/soybean			LER/maize			LER			R.C.C			Aab			CR		
	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.
Irrigation treatments																		
I ₁	0.91	0.82	0.86	0.31	0.33	0.32	1.22	1.15	1.19	4.56	2.37	3.47	0.664	0.589	0.626	0.73	0.62	0.68
I ₂	0.85	0.65	0.75	0.27	0.29	0.28	1.12	0.94	1.03	2.22	0.77	1.49	0.629	0.463	0.546	0.80	0.56	0.68
I ₃	0.86	0.74	0.80	0.28	0.31	0.29	1.14	1.05	1.09	2.64	1.28	1.96	0.629	0.532	0.580	0.76	0.61	0.68
LSD 0.05	0.013	0.041	0.018	0.013	0.013	0.008	ns	0.041	0.018	0.615	0.640	0.369	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.059	0.013	ns
Intercropping patterns																		
T ₁	0.89	0.74	0.82	0.29	0.33	0.31	1.18	1.07	1.13	3.61	1.55	2.58	0.653	0.530	0.591	0.76	0.57	0.67
T ₂	0.85	0.74	0.79	0.29	0.31	0.30	1.14	1.05	1.09	2.56	1.46	2.01	0.624	0.527	0.5765	0.74	0.59	0.67
T ₃	0.88	0.73	0.80	0.28	0.29	0.28	1.16	1.02	1.09	3.25	1.41	2.33	0.645	0.527	0.586	0.78	0.63	0.71
LSD 0.05	0.010	ns	0.016	0.01	0.010	ns	0.010	0.010	0.007	0.601	ns	0.357	0.010	0.010	0.01	0.010	0.032	0.016
Interactions																		
I ₁ x T ₁	0.92	0.80	0.86	0.32	0.36	0.34	1.24	1.16	1.20	5.29	2.27	3.78	0.671	0.565	0.618	0.72	0.55	0.64
I ₁ x T ₂	0.90	0.83	0.86	0.31	0.33	0.32	1.21	1.16	1.18	3.89	2.37	3.13	0.653	0.593	0.623	0.72	0.62	0.67
I ₁ x T ₃	0.91	0.84	0.87	0.30	0.30	0.30	1.22	1.13	1.17	4.51	2.48	3.49	0.668	0.609	0.638	0.75	0.70	0.73
I ₂ x T ₁	0.87	0.68	0.78	0.27	0.30	0.28	1.14	0.98	1.06	2.54	0.92	1.73	0.644	0.486	0.565	0.81	0.57	0.69
I ₂ x T ₂	0.83	0.65	0.74	0.27	0.29	0.28	1.10	0.93	1.02	1.77	0.74	1.26	0.607	0.459	0.533	0.77	0.56	0.66
I ₂ x T ₃	0.86	0.63	0.75	0.27	0.28	0.27	1.13	0.91	1.02	2.34	0.65	1.49	0.637	0.446	0.542	0.81	0.56	0.69
I ₃ x T ₁	0.88	0.75	0.82	0.29	0.32	0.31	1.17	1.08	1.12	2.99	1.46	2.23	0.645	0.539	0.592	0.76	0.59	0.67
I ₃ x T ₂	0.84	0.74	0.79	0.28	0.31	0.29	1.12	1.05	1.08	2.03	1.26	1.65	0.613	0.530	0.571	0.74	0.60	0.67
I ₃ x T ₃	0.86	0.73	0.79	0.27	0.29	0.28	1.13	1.02	1.07	2.91	1.10	2.01	0.629	0.527	0.578	0.78	0.63	0.71
LSD 0.05	0.018	0.056	0.028	0.018	0.018	0.012	0.018	0.018	0.012	1.040	0.786	0.617	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.056	0.028

-ns, * and **: Non significant, significant at 5 and 1% levels of probability, respectively.

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Table (5): Effects of irrigations treatments, intercropping systems and their interactions on total return and net return (L.E.fed)

Treatments	Total return/fed. (L.E)			Net return/fed. (L.E)		
	2010	2011	Comb.	2010	2011	Comb.
Irrigation treatments						
I ₁	5440.79	4884.81	5162.80	3220.79	2664.81	2942.80
I ₂	4977.01	4016.87	4496.94	2757.01	1796.87	2276.94
I ₃	5067.62	4453.82	4760.72	2847.63	2233.83	2540.73
Intercropping patterns						
T ₁	5262.52	4580.63	4921.57	3042.52	2360.63	2701.57
T ₂	5081.36	4455.38	4768.37	2861.36	2235.38	2548.37
T ₃	5141.54	4319.49	4730.52	2921.55	2099.49	2510.52
Interactions						
I ₁ x T ₁	5523.07	4970.35	5246.71	3303.07	2750.35	3026.71
I ₁ x T ₂	5390.84	4914.37	5152.61	3170.84	2694.37	2932.61
I ₁ x T ₃	5408.46	4769.70	5089.08	3188.47	2549.71	2869.09
I ₂ x T ₁	5060.19	4182.43	4621.3	2840.19	1962.43	2401.31
I ₂ x T ₂	4872.24	3997.79	4435.01	2652.24	1777.79	2215.01
I ₂ x T ₃	4998.60	3870.38	4434.49	2778.60	1650.39	2214.49
I ₃ x T ₁	5204.31	4589.1	4896.71	2984.31	2369.11	2676.71
I ₃ x T ₂	4981.00	4453.99	4717.49	2761.00	2233.99	2497.49
I ₃ x T ₃	5017.57	4318.39	4667.98	2797.57	2098.39	2447.98

Solid Maize 26.11 ardab/fed (2010) and 24.22 ardab/fed (2011)

Solid Soybean 1005.17 kg/fed (2010) and 951.39 kg/fed (2011)

Farm gate price: 1- Maize, L.E 220/ ardab 2- Soybean, L.E 4000/ton

Total cost : 1- Solid Soybean: L.E 2200 2- Solid Maize: L.E. 2300