

STAKING CLIMBING BEANS



Single stakes

- Use stakes from woody trees such as bamboo, *Eucalyptus* or *Grevillea*; or from forage shrubs such as *Cedrella*, *Leucaena*, *Alnus* or *Calliandra*.
- Put stakes deep and firmly in the ground.
- One stake can support 1-4 plants.
- The highest yields are obtained when at least 20,000 stakes are used per hectare (8,000 stakes per acre), each stake measuring at least 175 cm long.



Tripod

- Tie 2, 3 or 4 long stakes together.
- Tying stakes together increases their strength.
- Use a tripod when the soil is shallow or when stakes are not very strong (for example when using *Pennisetum*).
- Each stake of the tripod can support 1-3 plants.



Ropes

- A rope or stake is tied horizontally between 2 single stakes or between 2 tripods.
- From this horizontal stake or rope, many ropes fall vertically over the climbing beans and act as stakes.
- Ropes are usually cheaper than good wooden stakes.
- Good ropes are made from sisal.

Benefits of staking using strong ropes and stakes

- Climbing varieties grow taller than bush varieties and can therefore attain higher yields on the same land area.
- To grow tall, climbing bean requires staking which provides support to the plants.
- It is easier to harvest beans when they are staked.
- Staked beans have stronger support and are therefore more tolerant to heavy rain and wet soils.
- The higher and stronger the stakes are and the more stakes you use, the higher the yield.

Working in partnership to create down-to-earth messages on integrated soil fertility management

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