

## Mixed Green Manure Cropping

***Prelims:** Economic and Social Development - Sustainable Development| Current events of national and international importance*

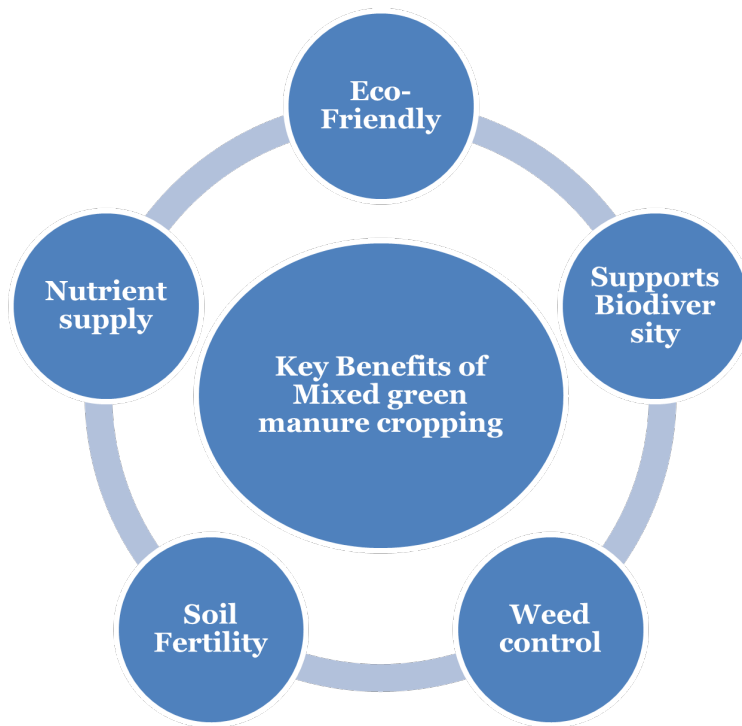
### **Why in news?**

*Recently The National Seeds Corporation (NSC) has introduced two mixed green manure kits to promote mixed green manure cropping.*

*National Seeds Corporation (NSC) is established in 1963, is engaged in the production and distribution of certified seeds to enhance agricultural productivity and ensure food security.*

- **Green Manure** - It refers to crops specifically grown to be incorporated back into the soil rather than harvested.
- These crops decompose in the field, enriching the soil with organic matter and essential nutrients.
- **Mixed green manure cropping** - It involves cultivation of multiple green manure crop species with complementary characteristics together and incorporated back into soil to enrich the soil.
- It is a dynamic, multifaceted approach that significantly **improves soil fertility and long-term farm sustainability**.
- It aligns with National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).
- The most important green manure crops are,
  - Sunnhemp
  - Dhaincha
  - Pillipesara
  - Clusterbeans
  - Sesbania rostrata

### **Key Benefits**



- **Nutrient supply** - It *enhances soil nitrogen* through **legumes** and improves *organic matter and micronutrient* availability.
- **Soil fertility** - Deep roots species such as *Dhaincha and Sunhamp* **loosen compact layers**.
- Fibrous roots species such as *cowpea and sorghum* improve **aeration and moisture retention**.
- **Weed control** - Allelopathic crops inhibit weed seed germination and dense canopy suppresses weed growth naturally.

*Allelopathy is a phenomenon where one plant releases chemicals that affect the growth of other plants nearby. These chemicals, called allelochemicals, can inhibit germination, suppress growth.*

- **Supports Biodiversity** - It encourages beneficial insects and pollinators.
- It also enhances **microbial diversity and soil food web stability**.
- **Eco-Friendly** - It reduces dependency on chemical fertilizers and herbicides and supports agroecological sustainability.

## Reference

[DD News| Mixed green manure cropping](#)