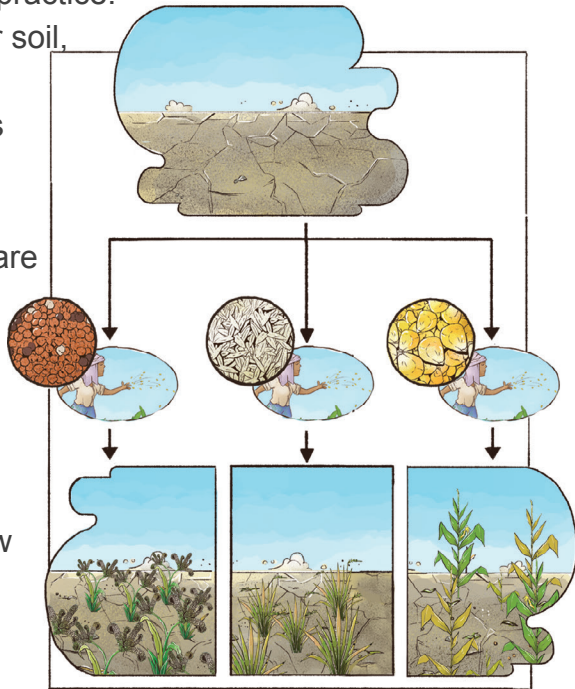


# Lesson: When soil is poor, it is better to plant pigeon pea first instead of a cereal crop

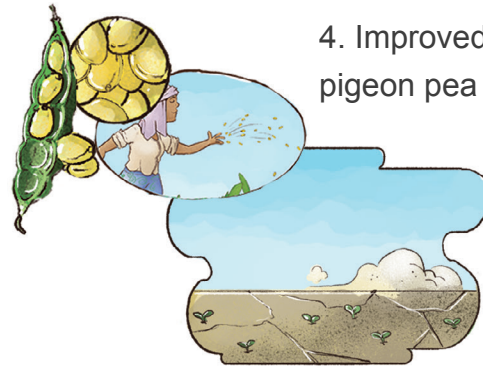
1. Bad practice:

on poor soil, cereals such as maize, millet or rice are sown



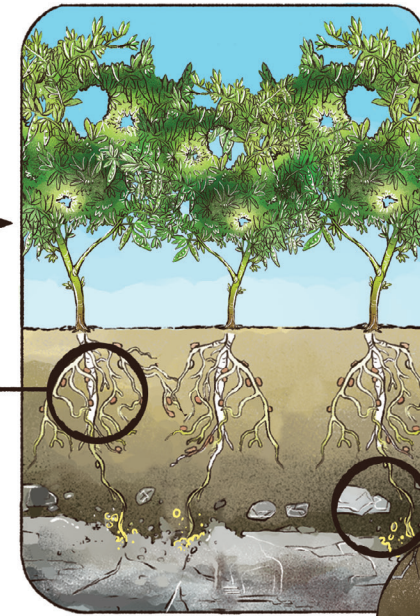
2. Low yields

3. Yields would be higher if synthetic fertilizer was added, but this costs money



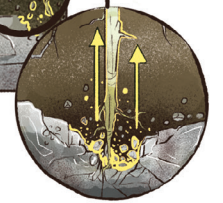
4. Improved practice: sow pigeon pea first

6. Roots have pink spheres which produce natural nitrogen fertilizer (blue colour)

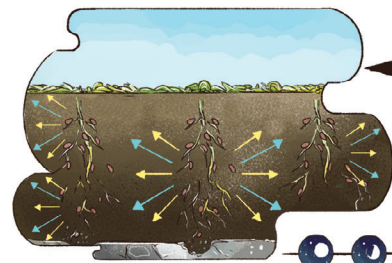
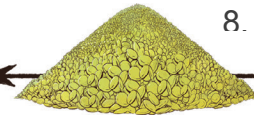


5. Mature pigeon pea

7. Long roots dissolve deep rock phosphorus (yellow colour)

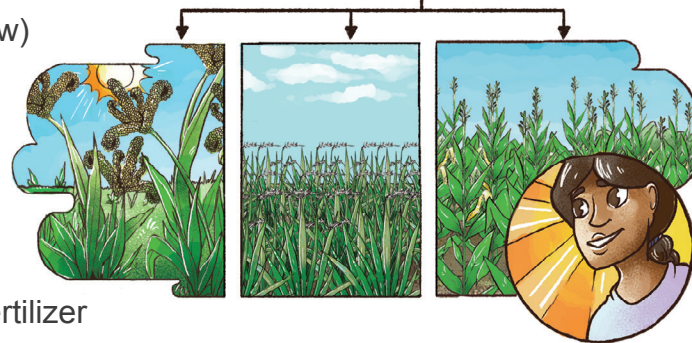
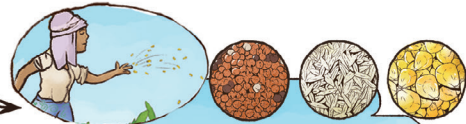


8. Harvest



9. Remaining pigeon pea roots decompose and deposit nitrogen (blue) and phosphorus (yellow) into soil

10. Next season: sow cereal



11. Cereal crop will now grow without fertilizer

12.

Continue rotation with cereal and legumes

