

**ACID SOILS: A NEED TO EVALUATE APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT
SYSTEMS FOR SUSTAINED PRODUCTION UNDER RAINFED
CONDITIONS**

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ABSTRACT

The review shows that research on acid soils has for long concentrated on management of soil acidity often with emphasis on aluminium saturation. Many studies have overlooked other major constraints in acid soils; this includes physical constraints. Recent work has successfully considered other approaches such as use acid tolerant varieties, overcoming physical constraints, overcoming major chemical limitations such as P, incorporation of organic residues and use of a legume crop in the cropping cycle, and demonstrated that these technologies hold promise. However, these approaches have often been on an ad hoc basis. Thus there is a need for evaluating and validating a number of most promising and appropriate combination of inputs. The paper then discusses the need for and the network approach by the International Board for Soil Research and Management (IBSRAM) in such validation trials.