

Summary

Three plots (3960 m² each) of pasto sabanero (*Andropogon gayanus*) were established in June 1987 on a farm near Pariaguán, Anzoátegui state, Venezuela. One plot was planted with the grass alone, in the second the grass was in association with siratro (*Macroptilium atropurpureum*) and in the third with centro (*Centrosema pubescens*). The objective of the trial was to evaluate the mixtures under grazing. The grass was planted in rows 1.60 m apart and the legumes were seeded between the rows.

Establishment was successful and by the end of 1987 there was 9%-12% legume in the associated plots. At the beginning of 1988 vegetation accumulated during the establishment phase was grazed off. Following the 1988 dry season (Jan./May) the plots were grazed three times. Botanical composition and herbage production were determined prior to each grazing. Pasto sabanero produced an average of 7262 kg of DM/ha with a crude protein level of 6%. Legume crude protein was double that of the grass but they did not persist with successive grazings. It appears that legume persistence was

affected by the dry season, management and competition from the grass.