



**Figure S1. Experimental layout and design**

## General remarks

**Crop:** Wheat-maize rotation system

**Design:**

- Before liming (1991–2021):** RCBD
- After liming (2011–2018):** Split plot design

**Replication:** Two replications each with 2 strata / a plot

**Sampling unit 1** = stratum 1

**Sampling unit 2** = stratum 2

**Number of rows:**

- Before liming:** Wheat = 50  
Maize = 14
- After liming:** Wheat = 24  
Maize = 6

**Row length:** 20 m

**Space b/n rows:**

Wheat = 20 cm

Maize = 75 cm

**Space b/n crop:**

Wheat: drilled

Maize: 25 cm

**Space b/n blocks:** 1m

## Plot size:

- Before liming:**  $10 \text{ m} \times 20 \text{ m} = 200 \text{ m}^2$   
stratum /sampling unit =  $8.25 \text{ m} \times 7.75 \text{ m} = 64 \text{ m}^2$
- After liming:**  $4.9 \text{ m} \times 20 \text{ m} = 98 \text{ m}^2$   
stratum /sampling unit =  $4.25 \text{ m} \times 7.5 \text{ m} = 31.87 \text{ m}^2$

## Treatments:

- Before liming:** 6 (5 fertilizer treatments + 1 control): C (no fertilizer application or control); (2) N (nitrogen); (3) NP (N and phosphorus); (4) NK (N and potassium); (5) NPK (N, P, and K); (6)  $\text{NPKC}_R$  (NPK fertilizer plus crop residue ( $C_R$ ))

**After liming:** 11 (5 fertilizer treatments by two level of liming (no liming (-L) and with liming (+L)): (1) C; (2) N-L; (3) N+L; (4) NP-L; (5) NP+L; (6) NK-L; (7) NK+L; (8) NPK-L; (9) NPK+L; (10)  $\text{NPKC}_R$ -L; (11)  $\text{NPKC}_R$ +L.

**Note:** The stratification technique used for sampling was based on the principle that sampling units from the same stratum/sampling unit are more similar than those from different strata, according to [45].