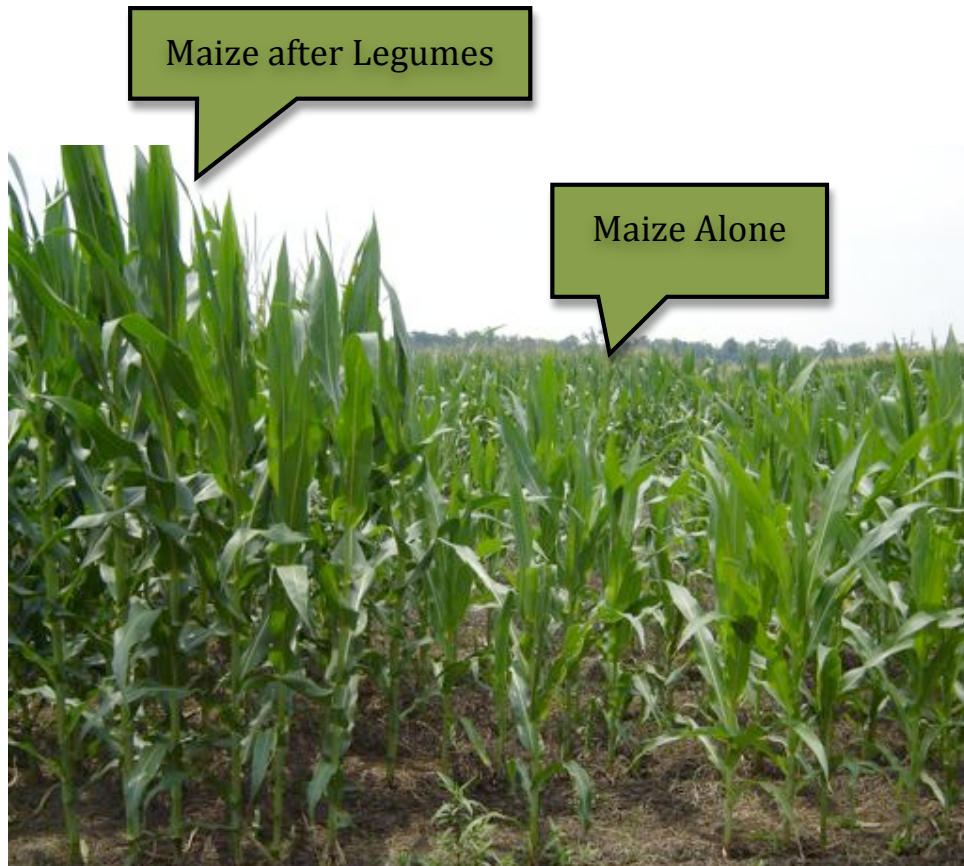


LEGUMES AND OTHER CROPS

- N goes into the leaves of legumes
- When the leaves fall and decompose, the N goes into the soil

Next season, there is more N in the soil for maize to grow!



Bacteria and Legumes: The Farmers' Friends

- One of the most important nutrients for growing crops is **NITROGEN**
- **NITROGEN** is in the air, but plants cannot use it.
- **NITROGEN** comes from different places:



Animal Manures



Leaves and dead plants



Chemical Fertilizer



Legume Crops

LEGUMES ARE PLANTS THAT...

- Have nodules on their roots that are home to bacteria called **RHIZOBIA**



- Legumes can be trees or vines or crops you grow.
- What types of legumes do you know about?
 - Soyabean, pigeonpea, groundnut, mucuna...



RHIZOBIA AND NITROGEN FIXATION

- Rhizobia are bacteria that live in the soil
- When a legume plant grows, they move into the roots and make nodules
- In the nodules, rhizobia change Nitrogen in the air into Nitrogen for the plant.
- Now the plant has the **NITROGEN** it needs to grow!

