Groundnut Cropping Activities (1981-1982)

1. Planting - The first planting of groundnuts by farmers in our sample occurred between the end of May and the first of August. The most common planting periods were the first of June and the first of July. Sixty-three percent of the farmers planted after rains (nadaaya) while 37 percent planted before rains (rameel). Farmers often planted their groundnuts after the first weeding. This practice can be explained by the fact that because groundnuts are so closely planted together, it is difficult to weed them in the early growth stages without damaging some of the plants. So farmers often opt to have the whole field weeded prior to planting. The weeding costs are less by doing it this way as well.

2. Replanting - Replanting does not usually occur in groundnuts production. Only one farmer did so in our sample. He replanted during the first of July.

3. 1st Weeding - As stated earlier, farmers often weed before they plant their groundnuts. So the first weeding occurred between the first of June and the first of August. The most common first weeding period was the first of July.

4. 2nd Weeding - The second weeding of groundnuts occurred between the end of June and the first of September. No common second weeding period was detectable from our sample.

5. Pulling - The pulling of groundnuts occurred between the middle of September and the end of November. The most common pulling period was the middle of October to the end of October.

Sorghum Cropping Activities (1981-1982 Season)

1. Planting - The first planting of sorghum occurred between the middle of May and the end of July. The most common planting period was from the first of June to the first of July. Seventy percent of the farmers planted their sorghum after rains (nadaaya), while 30 percent planted it before rains (rameel). The majority of the farmers who planted sorghum in our sample intercropped it with sesame, so considerable overlap should exist between these two crops regarding the timing of planting, replanting and first and second weeding.

2. Replanting - Replanting of sorghum occurred between the end of June and the first of August. The most common replanting period was the first of July. Thirty-three percent of the farmers surveyed replanted sorghum, most of these after rains (90%).

3. 1st Weeding - The first weeding of sorghum occurred between the middle of June and the middle of August. The most common first weeding period was from the middle of July to the first of August.

Sorghum was planted both in a separate stand as well as intercropped, usually with sesame. These were lumped together in this chart.