

Tokyo Symposium on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, 27 Nov/2 Dec 1995



ICRAF

## Can rehabilitation of *Imperata* grasslands help to protect the remaining rain forests?

Meine van Noordwijk

ICRAF - S.E.Asia, P.O. Box 161, Bogor 16001, Indonesia

### Abstract

Forest conversion for unsustainable land use practices in the humid tropics often results in the formation of coarse grasslands, dominated by *Imperata cylindrica*. Rehabilitation of these grasslands may help to alleviate the pressure on further forest conversion. Evidence in favour and against this hypothesis is reviewed on the basis of results of Phase I of the global 'Alternatives to Slash-and-Burn' project in Indonesia.

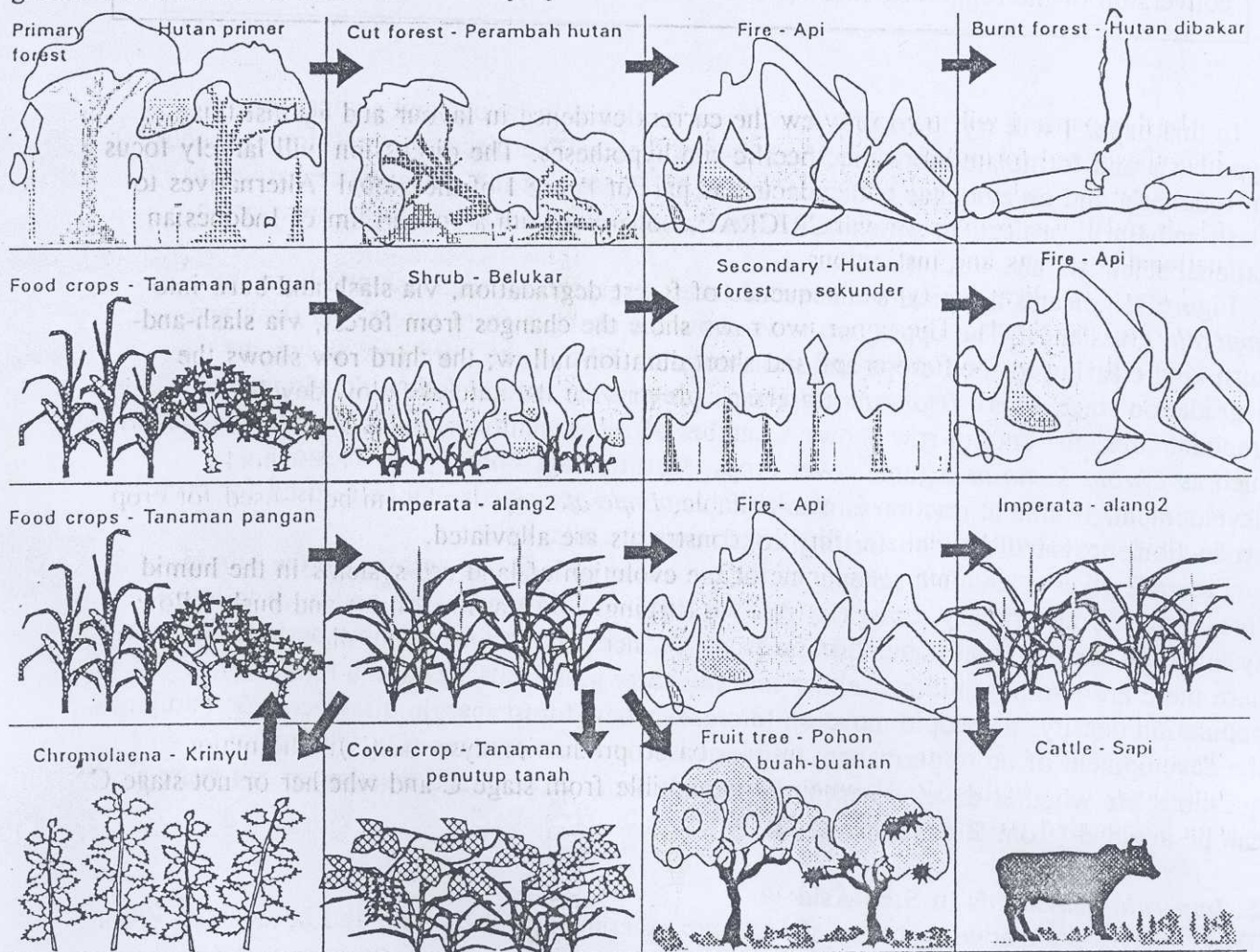


Figure 1. Schematic changes in land use