



## Impact of Intercropping System on Egyptian Food Security and Balance of Trade

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**Abstract :** Food shortage is one of the major problems which faces Egypt due to the limited cultivable land area and the growing increase in population. By applying intercropping as one of the agricultural intensification systems, Both descriptive and quantitative statistical methods have been applied, The research aims to investigate the possibility of intercropping some of the major crops with other crops that cultivate the same time period, The core objective is to estimate the volume of production that can be attained from the intercropped plants in the main Governorates which are cultivate the two intercropped plants, and the consequent reduction in deficit in Egypt's Balance of Trade.

Returns expected from intercropping some plants: Production Quantity of intercropping of wheat, soybeans, maize, broad beans and tomatoes are 746.3, 225.38, 4451.5, 207.9, 28.78 (Thousand tons) respectively, and the decline percentage in the imports quantity are 10.9%, 42.9%, 92.0%, 66 %, 106.6%, and the imports value is decreased for wheat, soybeans, maize and broad beans can be reduced by 3.827, 0.587, 1.94 and 0.177 billion US\$, respectively. In addition to tomato exports which generate increased around 70.94 million US\$(surplus). Total revenue obtained from the intercropping of these plants is around 6.441 billion US\$, From what proceeded, the following can be concluded It is important to adopt intercropping as one of the main farming methods used to raise production per plot of agricultural land. It is highly recommended to raise farmers' awareness about the importance of intercropping wheat with cotton.

**Key words:** Balance of Trade - Food Security- Intercropping.

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