Highlights:

* Maize grain yields in the four-year rotation were 8% higher than in the two-year
* Maize roots extended 11% deeper in the four-year compared with the two-year
* Maize had less shallow (0-15 cm) root biomass in the four-year compared with the two-year
* Four-year rotation maize roots were ‘deeper and steeper’ compared with the two-year
* Differences were not explained by physical soil measurements