

## **CABBAGE PLANTING GUIDE**



### **Factors to consider when choosing cabbage**

- Head size
- Head weight
- Yield potential
- Pest and disease tolerance/resistance
- Market availability
- Preferences

### **Soil & Climate for Cabbage Production**

- Well drained, fertile, sandy loam rich in organic matter with PH of 6.5 - 7.5 is ideal for cultivation
- For early maturing crop, sandy loam soils are considered best. For late maturing crop clay loam soil/heavy soils are best
- Optimum temperatures for seed germination are 25-30°C
- Optimum temperatures for growth & head formation in Cabbage are 15-20°C
- Heat tolerant varieties of Cabbage can form compact head under tropical conditions in day temperatures of 30-35°C
- Well drained soils, with high organic matter that exhibit high water holding capacity are suitable
- Soils with pH more than 6.8 should be adjusted by broadcasting hydrated lime 2-3 days prior to planting.

### **Nursery Management**

- There are two techniques currently for raising seedlings; use of seed trays and use of normal ground.
- Sowing should be done in a well-controlled & protected nursery raised with a width of 1m.

- The soil should be well prepared into a fine tilth and sowing lines of 10cm and 2-3cm depth made.
- The seeds should be placed on the soil 2cm apart to take between 40-50 plants per sowing line.
- The seedbed can be covered by use of dry grass/gunny bags and watered gently to avoid splashes
- Ensure watering is done very early in the morning and frequently after 4 days.
- During nursery stage expect soil borne pests and diseases that you need to protect the seed from.
- Damping off is also a common issue that prevents development of seedlings.
- Expect infestation of cutworms after transplanting is done



### **Transplanting**

- Transplant seedlings when 10 - 15cm tall or have 5 or 6 leaves
- Water the bed the previous day before transplanting them to their permanent position.
- Transplant the cabbage plants in the evening to minimise shock. Keep as much soil around the roots as you can.
- Spacing can vary depending on market requirement but standard spacing of 60cm x 60cm is recommended



- 
- Apply 8-10 MT/acre of well decomposed farm yard manure and mix well with the soil
- Apply base fertilizers rich in phosphorus on the planting hole such as N:P:K at a rate of 10gms per hole
- Top-dress 3-4 weeks after transplanting with nitrogenous fertilizers
- Irrigation should be done early or mid-morning

### Fertilizer requirement



- 
- Fertilizer requirement will depend on the soil analysis done prior to planting. However the following is a guide 120: 60: 60 kg NPK/acre First top dressing (15-20 Days after Transplanting); 50 kg of C.A.N/Acre.
- 2nd split to be applied two weeks later at 5g per plant, avoid excessive nitrogen application as it causes split heads.
- Second top dressing (40-45 Days after transplanting): 100 Kg of Ammonium Sulphate/ acre +30 kg of MAP/ acre.

- Top dressing should be applied in bands and after each application earthing up of plants is necessary

- Cabbage has shallow root system and hence requires frequent & light
- Split applications are the most recommended. 1st split of CAN at 10gms per plant. irrigations especially during head formation.
- 

## Harvesting

Cabbages are mature and ready for harvest after 65 to 75 days from transplanting. Cut at the lowest point possible, leaving the loose outer leaves attached at the stalk

