Urad (Black Gram) Cultivation Guide

Introduction

Urad (Black Gram) is a nutritious pulse crop rich in protein, fiber, and essential minerals. It is widely cultivated

in India and other tropical regions. Urad grows well in warm climates with moderate rainfall and well-drained loamy soil.

It is used for making dal, papad, and various food preparations.

Step-by-Step Cultivation Process

1. Land Preparation

Plow the field thoroughly to make the soil loose and aerated. Ensure good drainage to prevent waterlogging.

2. Seed Selection

Use high-yielding and disease-resistant urad varieties. Certified seeds ensure better productivity.

3. Sowing

Sow urad seeds at a depth of 3-5 cm with a row spacing of 30-40 cm. The best sowing time is June-July for the Kharif season and October-November for the Rabi season.

4. Irrigation

Urad requires minimal irrigation. Provide light watering at critical growth stages like flowering and pod formation.

5. Fertilization

Apply organic manure along with nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertilizers based on soil test recommendations.

6. Weed Control

Weeds should be removed manually or using herbicides during the early growth stages to prevent yield loss.

7. Pest and Disease Management

Common pests include aphids and pod borers. Protect plants from diseases like yellow mosaic virus using resistant varieties and organic treatments.

8. Harvesting

Urad is ready for harvest in 80-100 days when pods turn black and leaves start drying. Harvest early to avoid shattering of seeds.

9. Post-Harvest Processing

Thresh and dry harvested grains properly before storage. Store in dry, cool conditions to prevent insect attacks.

Conclusion

Urad (Black Gram) is a valuable pulse crop with high nutritional and economic importance. With proper soil preparation,

irrigation, and pest control, farmers can achieve high yields and ensure quality production. It remains a staple food ingredient

and an essential component of sustainable farming systems.