

# Mango Cultivation Guide

## Introduction

Mango (*Mangifera indica*) is one of the most popular tropical fruits, known as the "King of Fruits." It is widely grown in tropical and subtropical regions for its sweet, juicy flavor and high nutritional value. Mangoes are consumed fresh, dried, or processed into juices, jams, and pickles.

## Steps of Cultivation

### 1. Variety Selection

- Choose high-yielding and disease-resistant varieties.
- Popular varieties include Alphonso, Dasher, Kesar, Langra, and Tommy Atkins.

### 2. Soil Preparation

- Prefers well-drained loamy or alluvial soil with a pH of 5.5–7.5.
- Deep plowing and leveling of land are recommended.
- Organic manure or compost should be applied before planting.

### 3. Planting and Spacing

- The best time for planting is during the monsoon season (June–August).
- Spacing: 8–10 meters between trees for normal varieties, 4–6 meters for dwarf varieties.
- Planting is done using grafted saplings for quicker fruiting.

### 4. Irrigation and Water Management

- Young plants require frequent watering, while mature trees need irrigation during dry periods.
- Drip irrigation is recommended for efficient water use.
- Avoid excessive watering, as it may lead to root rot.

### 5. Fertilization and Nutrient Management

- Apply nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertilizers based on soil test recommendations.
- Organic fertilizers such as farmyard manure and compost improve fruit quality.
- Micronutrients like zinc and boron enhance flowering and fruiting.

### 6. Weeding and Pest Control

- Regular weeding is necessary to prevent competition for nutrients.
- **Common pests:** Mango hoppers, fruit flies, and mealybugs. Use neem-based pesticides and biological controls.

- **Common diseases:** Powdery mildew, anthracnose, and bacterial canker. Apply fungicides and ensure proper pruning.

## 7. Harvesting and Yield

- Mango trees start fruiting in 3–5 years (for grafted trees) and 7–10 years (for seed-grown trees).
- Harvesting is done when fruits mature but are still firm.
- Average yield varies between 10–20 tons per hectare, depending on variety and management practices.

## Conclusion

Mango cultivation is a profitable and rewarding farming practice. Proper soil preparation, irrigation, pest management, and nutrient application enhance yield and fruit quality. Sustainable cultivation methods ensure long-term productivity and profitability for mango farmers.

