

ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal

Advisory (January 16-31, 2026) for Sowing and other practices across zones of India Crop Season 2025-26

Wheat sowing is completed now. Favorable weather conditions are supporting vegetative growth and tillering of wheat.

General Tips

- ✓ To protect the crop from frost damage, apply light irrigation if the soil lacks adequate moisture.
- ✓ Ensure timely and judicious irrigation to conserve water and reduce cultivation costs.
- ✓ Proper weed management needs to be followed at this stage.
- ✓ Check weather forecasts before irrigating and avoid irrigation if rainfall is expected to prevent water logging.
- ✓ If there is yellowing in the crop, do not use excessive nitrogen (urea). Also, avoid the use of nitrogen in fog or cloudy conditions.
- ✓ Regularly monitor the crop for yellow rust and brown rust infections and consult nearby institute, SAU or KVK.
- ✓ In conservation till wheat, top dressing of urea should be done just before the irrigation to maximize nutrient absorption by the plants.

Fertilizer dose:

Application of Nitrogen doses should be completed up to 40-45 days after sowing. Apply urea just before irrigation in heavy soils for better results.

Weed management (Herbicide Spray):

- ✓ To control narrow leaf weeds in wheat, apply Clodinafop 15 WP @ 160 gm per acre or Pinoxaden 5 EC @ 400 ml per acre. To control broad leaf weeds, spray 2,4-D E 500 ml/acre or metsulfuron 20 WP at 8 grams per acre or carfentrazone 40 DF at 20 g/acre.
- ✓ If there are both narrow and broad leaf weeds in wheat field then use Sulfosulfuron 75 WG @ 13.5 gm/acre or Sulfosulfuron+Metsulfuron 80 WG at 16 gm/acre in 120-150 liters of water before the first irrigation or 10-15 days after irrigation. Alternatively, mesosulfuron + iodosulfuron 3.6%WDG @ 160 gm/acre can also be applied for control of diverse weed flora in wheat.
- ✓ For control of multiple herbicide resistant Phalaris minor (Kanaki/Gulli Danda), spray Pyroxasulfone 85 WG at the rate of 60 grams/acre alone or in combination with pendimethalin 30 EC 2.0 lit/acre 0-3 days after sowing or Spray ready mix combination of Aclonifen 450 + diflufenican 75 + pyroxasulfone 50 (Mateno More) @ 800 ml/acre 0-3 days after sowing using 150-200 lit of water or Spray ready mix combination of clodinafop + metribuzin 12+42% WP at 200 g/acre or Bixlozone + metribuzin 60% WG at 600 g/acre at 10-15 days after first irrigation using 120-150 lit of water.
- ✓ For early sown high fertility conditions wheat, first spray of tank mix combinations of Chlormequat chloride 50% SL at 0.2% of commercial product+ tebuconazole 25.9% EC at 0.1% of commercial product may be done at boot leaf node stage (80-85 DAS) using 160 lit/acre of water.

Advisory for Yellow Rust and Brown Rust:

Keeping in view the favorable humid weather for rust, farmers are advised to visit their crop regularly for observing stripe rust (yellow rust) and brown rust incidence. If farmers observe and have confirmed incidence of yellow rust or brown rust in their wheat fields, following measures are recommended:

- One spray of Propiconazole 25EC @ 0.1 per cent or Tebuconazole 50 % + Trifloxystrobin 25 % WG @ 0.06% be given at the infected area to avoid its further spread.
- One ml of chemical should be mixed in one litre water and thus 200 ml of fungicide mixed with 200 L of water, whereas in case of Tebuconazole 50 % + Trifloxystrobin 25 % WG @ 0.6% fungicide mixed with 1L of water and thus 120 g of fungicide in 200 ml / L of water is mixed, and should be sprayed in one acre wheat crop.
- Farmers who have applied one type of fungicide previous year, it is suggested to apply alternate recommended fungicide this year.
Farmers should spray the crop when weather is clear i.e. no rain, no fog / dew etc.

Advisory for lodging control (early sown wheat crop):

Early sown wheat crop under high fertility irrigated conditions may be provided application of growth regulators for control of crop lodging. Second spray of growth regulators Chlormequat chloride (CCC) @ 0.2% + Tebuconazole 250 EC @ 0.1% of commercial product dose as tank can be done at flag leaf (75-85 days after sowing) stage. The farmers who have not done first spray on early sown wheat may apply only one spray at 70-80 days after sowing.

Advisory for Karnal Bunt Control:

For the farmers carrying out seed production of wheat crop, it is advised for the spray of Propiconazole @ 0.1% or Tebuconazole 50% + Trifloxystrobin 25% WG @ 0.06% at the time of ear head emergence stage. Further it is advised to avoid spray if there's no rain coinciding with ear-head emergence in Karnal bunt-prone areas.

Pest management:

- To avoid the infestation, use of nitrogen fertilizers in split doses is advised.
- Hand picking of infested tillers and their destruction reduces borer attack.
- If infestation is more, spray of 1000 ml quinalphos 25%EC in 500 liters of water per ha. be applied.

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15/1/26