

Cultivation of Mulberry

1. Climate & Soil

- **Climate** – Warm, humid; 24–28°C temperature.
- **Rainfall** – 600–2500 mm/year.
- **Soil** – Well-drained loamy soil, pH 6.2–6.8.

2. Land Preparation

- Deep ploughing (30–35 cm) to loosen soil.
 - Remove weeds and level the land.
 - Add organic manure (farmyard compost).
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3. Planting Methods

- **Cuttings** – 20–25 cm long healthy stem cuttings planted directly.
- **Saplings** – Transplanting nursery-raised plants.
- **Spacing:** 90 cm × 90 cm or 150 cm × 150 cm depending on variety.

4. Irrigation & Manuring

- Irrigate once a week in summer, once in 2-3 weeks in winter.
 - Apply NPK fertilizer + organic manure 3-4 times a year.
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5. Pruning & Leaf Harvest

- Prune plants 2-3 times/year to encourage new shoots.
- Leaves can be harvested by plucking or whole branch cutting for silkworm feeding.

6. Pest & Disease Control

- Common pests – leaf roller, mealy bug.
- Diseases – powdery mildew, leaf spot.
- Control by spraying neem extract or recommended pesticides.