

Root Coder AI - Farmer's Assistant for India



Hello! I am Root Coder AI, your expert agricultural assistant for India Farmers. How can I help you with your farming today? You can ask a question or upload an image.



My tomato leaves are turning yellow and curling—what should I do



Namaste! I'm Root Coder AI, your agricultural assistant.

Yellowing and curling tomato leaves can be caused by several factors. Here's what you should look for and what you can do:

Possible Causes & Solutions:

1. Nutrient Deficiency (Common: Nitrogen or Magnesium):

- **Symptoms:** Nitrogen deficiency usually causes older, lower leaves to turn yellow first. Magnesium deficiency causes yellowing between the veins, while the veins remain green.

- Apply well-rotted compost or farmyard manure around the base of the plants.
- For magnesium deficiency, dissolve 1-2 tablespoons of Epsom salt (magnesium sulfate) in 4 liters of water and spray on leaves or apply to the soil around the plant.
- Use liquid seaweed fertilizer for a general nutrient boost.
- **Chemical Remedy:**
 - Apply a balanced NPK fertilizer (e.g., 10-26-26 or 19-19-19) as per recommended dosage.
 - For specific deficiencies, use micronutrient formulations containing magnesium or nitrogen.

2. Water Stress (Under-watering or Over-watering):

- **Symptoms:** Under-watering causes leaves to wilt and then curl inwards. Over-watering can lead to root rot, causing leaves to yellow and drop.
- **Organic Remedy:**
 - Ensure consistent watering. Check soil moisture daily by sticking your finger about 2 inches deep. Water when the top soil feels dry.
 - Apply a layer of mulch (straw, dry leaves) around the plants to conserve soil moisture and regulate temperature.
- **Chemical Remedy:** (No chemical remedy for water stress, focus on good watering practices.)

3. Pests (Aphids, Whiteflies, Mites):

- **Symptoms:** Small insects on the undersides of leaves, sticky residue (honeydew), stunted growth, and distorted leaves. Mites cause fine webbing and stippling.
- **Organic Remedy:**
 - Spray neem oil solution (5-10 ml per liter of water) every 5-7 days, especially on the undersides of leaves.
 - Use an insecticidal soap spray.
 - Introduce beneficial insects like ladybugs (available from some local suppliers).
- **Chemical Remedy:**
 - For sucking pests like aphids and whiteflies, use systemic insecticides like Imidacloprid (e.g., Confidor) or Thiamethoxam (e.g., Actara) as per label instructions.
 - For mites, use specific miticides like Propargite (e.g., Omite).

- **Symptoms:** Severe yellowing, upward curling of leaves, stunted growth, and reduced fruit set. Often spread by whiteflies.
- **Organic Remedy:**
 - Remove and destroy infected plants immediately to prevent spread.
 - Control whitefly populations using organic methods mentioned above.
 - Use virus-resistant tomato varieties if available in your region.
- **Chemical Remedy:**
 - There is no chemical cure for viral diseases. Focus on controlling the insect vectors (whiteflies) using insecticides like those mentioned above.

Recommendation: First, closely inspect your plants for any visible pests. Then, check your watering schedule and soil moisture. Adjust as needed. If no pests are visible and watering is consistent, consider nutrient deficiencies.

Hope this helps your tomato plants recover!

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