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Pest and Disease Management

PESTS:

- Diamond-back Moth
- Common Cutworm
- Cabbage Moth and,
- Aphids

DISEASES:

- Damping Off
- Head Rot
- Anthracnose of Pepper
- Cescospora Leaf Spot

MANAGEMENT:

The occurrence of insect pests and diseases reduce the yield and eventually the quality of produce. To prevent the attack of pests, employ the following measures:

- Removal/cracking of insect pests egg masses.
- Crop rotation
- Intercropping non-host plants
- Early planting
- Proper fertilizer application
- Roughing of diseased plants
- Field sanitation
- Use of pesticide (as last resource)



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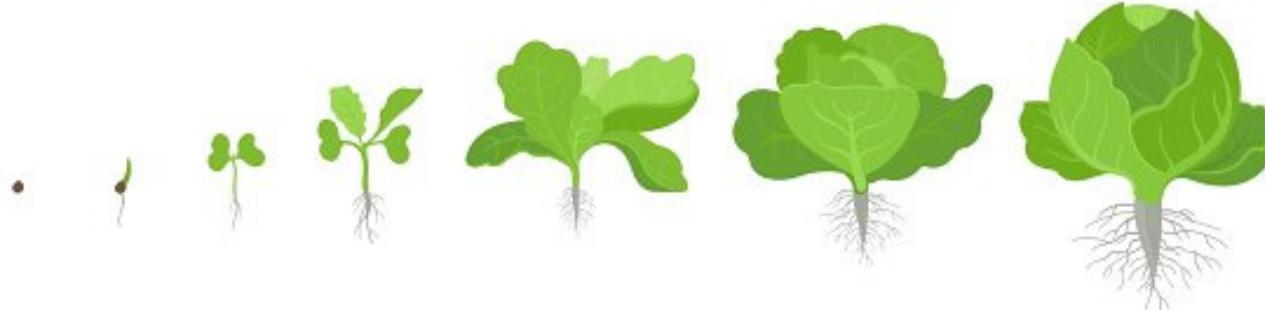


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CABBAGE

PRODUCTION GUIDE

CABBAGE GROWTH STAGES



Climatic and Soil Requirements

Cabbage grows best in a cool and moist climate. It grows best in sandy loam soil with a pH range of 6.0-6.8 with temperature usually range from 15°C – 20°C but it may vary according to its variety used.

Land Preparation

Plow and harrow the field 2-3 times at one week interval. Prepare furrows at a distance 30-50 cm to form ridges and raise beds about 100 cm wide.

Seedling Establishment and Transplanting

- Grow seedlings in seedbeds or seed boxes in a level area fully exposed to sunlight and accessible to water source.
- Fill the seed boxes with a sterilized mixture of 2 parts garden soil, 2 parts well-decompose manure, 1 part sand, 1 part compost and 2 parts rice hull ash.
- Water it before sowing.
- Prepare furrows across the beds/boxes at 5 cm apart. Sow about 10 seeds per cm. About 200 grams seeds is required per hectare.
- Cover the seeds lightly with soil.

- To protect the seedlings from insects, dust the surrounding of seedbed/seed boxes with any appropriate insecticide.
- Saturate the seedbeds/seed boxes with water for the first 3 days. Regulate watering after seed emergence.
- One week after emergence, prick sturdy and disease free seedlings.
- Harden the seedlings one week before transplanting.
- Transplant one-month old seedlings on ridges at a distance of 50 cm between rows and 40 cm between hills.
- In raised beds,use the double row system with a planting distance of 50 cm x 40 cm
- Transplanting should be done late in the afternoon.

Did you know?

Cabbage contains phytonutrients that work to protect the body from free radicals that can damage our cell membranes, signal our genes to increase its production of enzymes involved in detoxification and lower the incidence of cancer, especially in the lung, stomach and colon prostrate.

Irrigation and Fertilization

Water the plants immediately after transplanting. In large scale production furrow irrigation is advisable. Frequency of irrigation depends on soil condition and occurrence of rain. However, minimize watering when the plants start to develop heads to reduce rotting and cracking. Apply complete fertilizer (14-14-14) at the rate of 3 bags/hectare 3-5 days after transplanting (DAT). Sidedress 3 bags of urea 30 DAT about 6-8 cm away from the base of the plants.

Weeding

Control weed growth as early as possible through cultivation and handweeding.

To control weed growth and conserve soil moisture, mulching with rice straw may be applied immediately after transplanting. Plastic mulch may also be used. Place this just before transplanting.

Harvesting

Cabbage heads are ready for harvesting 55-60 days after transplanting. That is when the heads become firm and compact. Include several wrapper leave for protection. Discard and bury rotting heads or heap in compost pits. Treat the base of the marketable heads with lime or alum solution to prevent from rotting.

The heads will split when over mature; rapid growth due to excess moisture and fertility will also cause splitting.