**Barley**

**Climate Required:**

Barley is a *Rabi* crop in India.

Ideal temperature for germination is 12-25oC. Temperature required for growth is between 12 degree Celsius and 16 degree Celsius.

## ****Soil Required:****

Barley crop farming can be done on a variety of soil types, however, sandy to moderately heavy loam soils of Indo-Gangetic Plains having neutral to mild saline reaction and medium fertility are the most suitable types for barley cultivation. Having better salt tolerance barley is also grown in saline areas of various states. In drought affected areas also barley is crop of choice among cereals due to low input requirements especially water and nutrients.

## ****Soil preparation:****

Field is prepared with disc harrow and cultivator then planking is done. Land levelling is very important as barley crop is very sensitive to excess water and nitrogen. Appropriate bunding of field is essential for proper irrigation. In case of irrigated barley cultivation, pre-sowing is essential for proper germination.

## ****Harvesting:****

Barley crop gets ready for harvest by the end of March to first fortnight of April in different areas. Barley spikes are susceptible to shattering, therefore crop should be harvested when it matures to avoid breakage of spikes due to dryness on over maturity and in case of harvest with combines to avoid grain breakage.

## ****Yield:****

Average yield of barley may vary from 8 to 15 quintals per acre depending upon the area, variety, cultural practices and prevailing weather conditions.