**MAIZE**

**Soil Type and Site Selection**

Maize can be grown on a wide range of soils, but performs best on well-drained, well-aerated, deep soils containing adequate organic matter and well supplied with nutrients.

### ****Soil Test****

Maize can be grown successfully on soils with a moderately acid environment, having a pH value within the optimal pH range of 5.5-7.

### ****Temperature Requirement**** for Maize Farming

Optimally, temperatures between 25–30°C is suitable for proper growth and development.

### ****Land Preparation**** for Maize Farming

It is advisable to apply organic manures before ploughing to improve soil structure and supply nutrients.

It is important to plant immediately after land preparation in order to allow maize to get ahead of weeds.

### ****Maize Planting****

Early season maize in the Forest zone is usually planted between the middle of March and the first week of April.

However, because of changing rainfall pattern, maize sowing is recommended to be done as soon as soil conditions and temperature are favourable and the rainfall is well established.