

# Cauliflower Production



# Cauliflower Production in ER

- Cauliflower is the main cool season crop planted in the region
- Usually thousands of Jeribs are planted early in the Fall season
- Most of the area is still planted with local varieties (long growing cycle, maturity is not uniform, big head-size).
- Most of the area is planted with low population per Jerib

# Cauliflower Cultivars

- Based on temperature and photoperiodism divided in to three main groups
  - Early season varieties (60 days after transplanting)
    - White corona (Sakata)
  - Mid season varieties (75 days after transplanting)
    - Cashmere (Sakata)
    - Snow Grace (Takii)
- Late season varieties (90 days after transplanting)
  - Snow Mystique (Takii)

# Climate

- Comparatively High temperature and long days are needed for early and mid season varieties
- Late varieties respond better to low temperature and short days
- For good seed germination cauliflower need 10 - 21°C is required
- Cauliflower produce the best curds in range of 5 to 20-30C

# Soil

- Cauliflower is grown in many type of soils, but loam, sandy loam, and silt loam are the best,
- Early crop prefer light soil,
- High moisture - holding capacity soil are preferred in the summer
- Optimum soil pH range is from 6.5 - 7.5

# Manure and Fertilizers

- 4-5 MT/j well decomposed farm yard manure (FYM) is a principal source of potassium (K),
- General fertilizer recommendation for optimum yield are,
  - 16-24kg N/jerib
  - 12-20kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/jerib
  - 12-20 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/jerib
- Half nitrogen and all P and K should be applied at the time of transplanting at the top of bed and covered by soil,
- Remain half nitrogen after six week

# Planting Technique

- Use 100 gr seed /jerib,
- Cauliflower seed is sown on bed,
- After 3-4 weeks the seedling should be transplanted, from the nurseries
- Irrigate field before transplanting and select uniform seedling in the nurseries,
- After pulling seedling have to be dipped in the solution of Bavistin 2gr/liter

# Spacing

- Cauliflower transplanted on raised bed
- Two rows per bed, 50cm apart from each others,
- 1.1cm from the bed center to bed center,
- 40cm apart within a row alternate,
- Plant seedling 10 -15 cm apart from the ridge

# Irrigation

- According to the season and soil type,
- Irrigate field after transplanting immediately,
- subsequent watering is once or twice in a week, t

# Pest Management

## ■ Weed,

- Normally in the Eastern region weed control is by hands,
- Farm should be cleaned from the weed,
- From 1-2 hoeing and hoeing should not be deep to avoid injury of roots,

# Insect

- Organism: Diamondback Moth(DBM)  
(*plutella xylostella*), spray Cypermethrine
- Symptoms: larva feed on leave epidermis,
- Organism: Cabbage butterfly (*Pieris rapae*),
- Spray 1% Malathion

# Diseases

- Organism: Dawny mildew( *peronospora prasitea*)  
Syptomes:small yellow spot that eventually turn Brown,
- Plant dawny mildew resist varieties,
- Organism: Club root (*Plasmodiophora brassicae* )
- Symptoms: Infected roots enlarge, become distorted, and resemble clubs.
- fungicides per label recommendations. Before planting, dip roots in 4% calomel or Benomyl slurry.

# Harvest and Handling

- Harvest maturity is based on head diameter and compactness. Mature heads are > 15 cm in diameter.
- ‘ricy’ appearance, are a sign of over maturity

# Post Harvest Handling

- Depending on size, color, quality and cultivar.
- harvested cauliflower curds are separated into three grades,
- Cauliflower is highly sensitive to ethylene.
- should not be stored or transported with commodities, Which produce ethylene such as apple, bananas, melon or tomatoes,

