

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
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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)
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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
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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 rang is from 6.5 - 7.5
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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 P₂O₅/jerib
 - 12-20 kg K₂O/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
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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
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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
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Irrigation

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

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

- Organism: Downy mildew(*peronospora prasitea*)
Symptoms:small yellow spot that eventually turn Brown,
 - Plant downy 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.
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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
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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,
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