



Data Sheet

BEST PRACTICE – HYBRID PEARL MILLET

Season	Month
Kharif	June-July (onset of Monsoon)
Summer	Feb-March

Note: Sowing time may slightly vary depending on locations and season

Seed rate

1.5 kg/ Acre in Kharif, 3-4.5 Kg/Acre in Summer

Spacing

Maintaining row-row distance 50 cm by seed drill and plant-plant distance 15 cm at depth of 4-5 cm. Thinning within 2 weeks should be compulsory. Earthing up also increases the crop growth

Field Preparation

Selection of Soil – Sandy loam and light or loam soil with proper drainage are considered as best

Field preparation -Prepare the field by doing 1st ploughing with mould-bold plough followed by 2-3 ploughing with cultivator to pulverize the soil

Fertilizer recommendation (Kg/Acre)

Time of Application	Urea	DAP	Potash	Zinc
At the time of Sowing	25	40	25	8-10
After 25-30 days	25			

Fertilizer's recommendations may slightly vary from soil to soil and location to location. Need-based application of zinc is also recommended for better yields

Water Management

Sufficient soil moisture at tillering, flowering and grain filling stages is required for higher yields.

Note that Millet is a dry land crop and unnecessary irrigations should be avoided.

Weed and Disease & Insect Pest Management

Description	Dosages
Weedicide	Atrazine @ 0.5 kg/ha
White Grub	Soil application - Fipronil-0.3% GR (10 kg/Acre) may be taken up before sowing. Confidor -Imidacloprid 17.8 w/w @ 150 ml/Acre Decis® 100- Deltamethrin 100 EC (11% w/w) @ 100 ml/Acre
Blast	Spraying Carbendazim (@ 0.1% a.i.) or Tricyclazole (@ 0.05% a.i.) or Combination of Mancozeb 63% + Carbenadzim 12% is recommended @ 250 gm/Acre
Downy Mildew	Seed treatment with Ridomyl-MZ @ 6g/Kg seed followed by one spray of Ridomyl-MZ @ 3g/L reduces incidence
Shoot fly / Stem Borer	Spraying – Fame -Flubendiamide (80 ml/Acre) after 25 days crop.

Harvesting, Threshing and Yield

The best stage to harvest Pearl Millet is when the plants reach physiological maturity determined by the black spot at the bottom of the grain. When the crop matures, the leaves turn yellowish and present a nearly dried up appearance. The grains are hard and firm. The usual practice of harvesting Pearl Millet is cutting the ear heads first and the stalks later. The stalks (straw) are cut after a week, allowed to dry and then stacked. Grain at or below 14% moisture is considered dry. For long-term storage (more than 6 months), grain moisture content should be less than 12%.

