

Recommended package of practices

Foxtail millet(*Setaria italica* L.)

Varieties

A number of varieties with high yield potential have been released for different states. The list of latest and popular varieties recommended for different states are given below

Foxtail millet		
Sl. No.	State	Varieties
1.	Andhrapradesh	SiA 3088, SiA 3156, SiA 3085, Lepakshi, SiA 326
2.	Karnataka	SiA 326, HMT 100-1 and PS 4, Sreelaxmi, KO 12, Narasimharaya, SiA 3088, SiA 3156
3.	Tamil Nadu	TNAU 196 and TNAU 43, CO (Ten) 7, TNAU 186, CO 1, CO 2, CO 4, CO 5, K2, K3
4.	Rajasthan	Prathap Kangani (SR 1) and SR 51, SR 11, Sreelaxmi, SR 16, SiA 3085
5.	Uttar Pradesh	PRK 1 and PS 4, SiA 3088, 3085, Sreelaxmi, Narasimharaya, S-114, SiA 326
6.	Uttarakhand	PS 4 and PRK 1, Sreelaxmi, SiA 326

Season

- August – September in Tamil nadu.
- July-August in Karnataka.
- First fortnight of July in Andhra Pradesh.
- Second and third week of July in Maharashtra.
- In Tamil Nadu, *Kharif* irrigated crop is planted from the beginning of June to end of July and summer irrigated crop in January
- Plains of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, middle of June.

Spacing

- 25-30 cm between rows and 8-10 cm between plants within a row

Seed rate

- 8-10 kg ha⁻¹ for line sowing
- 15 kg ha⁻¹ for broadcasting

Manuring and fertilization

Apply 5 tones of farm yard manure per hectare 2-3 weeks prior to sowing. Fertilizer required for different states is as follows

State	Fertilizer recommended NPK kg ha ⁻¹
Andhra Pradesh	40:30:0

Jharkhand	40:20:0
Karnataka	30:15:0
Maharashtra	20:20:0
Tamil nadu	40:20:0
Other regions	20:20:0

Apply entire quantity of phosphorus and half of nitrogen at sowing and remaining half of nitrogen at 30 days after sowing.

Weed control

- Two inter cultivations and one hand weeding in line sowing
- Two hand weeding in broadcasted crop

Cropping systems

Inter cropping

Andhra Pradesh: Foxtail millet+ ground nut (2:1 ratio)
Foxtail millet + cotton (5:1 ratio) - Royal seema regions.
Finger millet + pigeon pea in 5:1 row ratio.

Relay cropping

Andhra Pradesh: If monsoon is early, sow foxtail millet at 45 cm row spacing and introduce *Rabi* jowar as relay crop when foxtail millet is nearing maturity.

Sequence cropping

Foxtail millet-mustard, foxtail millet-green gram, foxtail millet-pigeon pea and foxtail millet-sunflower are profitable than one crop of foxtail millet.

Diseases

- Blast (*Pyricularia setariae*), Brown spot (*Helminthosporium setariae*), rust (*Uromyces setariae*) appear on the foliage.

Control

Spraying Mancozeb (0.2%) and warrant a spray only if they appear at the early stages of crop growth.

- Grain Smut (*Ustilagocrameri*)

Control

Treating the seeds with Carboxin or Carbendazim @ 2g/kg

- Green ear (*Sclerosporagraminicola*)

Control

Treating the seeds with Ridomil Mz @ 2g/kg. Rouging out the affected plants.

Pests

Army worm, cut worm and leaf scragging beetle appear occasionally in serious form. In certain areas shootfly occur, although it is not a regular pest.

Control

When pests are noticed, take up dusting of Endosulfan 4% @ 30kg/ha or Malathion 5% @ 8-10 kg/ha.