

AGRONOMY PRACTICES OF COTTON



- **Sowing time:** Irrigated- 25 May to 7 June Rainfed- On receipt of good rains (7th June to 15th July)
- **Soil type:** Black cotton soils
- **Soil status:** Well drained
- **Spacing:** 3' *1.5' (Irrigated) and 3'*1' (Rainfed)

Fertilizer dosage

- Basal dose of NPK: Apply at sowing time
 - Irrigated : 125:65:150 kg /ha
 - Rainfed : 120:60:120 kg/ha
- Do not throw or spread fertilizer on soil surface
- With drip system: Split the “N” in 7 doses and give 20-25% less over recommended dose

Weed management

- Pre emergence herbicide –
Pendimethaline (Stomp 30EC)@0.4 -0.6 kg a.i/ac within 24 hrs of sowing in moist soil

Plant protection and disease management

1. Early stage of crop (30-50 days)

a) If leaves become red & drooping indicates the moisture stress

- ✓ Apply Kaolin 600 gms / stain green or miracle (1ml/1lit) / KNO_3 -50gms+ ZnSO_4 50gms/ K 1% at 10 days interval



b) **Fusarium wilt**- leaves become yellow, dry and shedding from bottom to top

- ✓ Apply COC 25 gms + KNO_3 / ZnSO_4 50 gms
- ✓ Remove excess water from field
- ✓ Spread Urea



c) **Sucking pests** -Aphids (Curling and Crinkling of leaves),
Jassids (Downward curling and margin reddening of leaves)
Thrips (Silvery undersurface of leaves)

- ✓ Appropriate pesticide spray of Confidor (0.5 ml/lit) or Regent (1ml/lit)



2. Middle stage of crop (60-90 days)

a) **Square dropping or Shedding**

- ✓ spray planofix (NAA).Need base use of optimum N

b) **Physiological leaf Reddening** -2 % K + 2% Mg + 0.5ml Lehosin(Per 10 Lit water) at 60 & 75 days age of crop



3. Late stage of crop (90-120 days)

a) **Dahiya - Grey mildew** – White spot on leaves-

- ✓ spray wettable sulphur (<2%) or Carbendazim (Bavistin)—2g/lit



b) **Bacterial Blight**- Water soaked angular leaf spots appear on leaves

- ✓ Foliar spray of Streptocycline (0.5 g/lit of water)



c) **Pink bollworm** - spray synthetic Pyrethroids and use pheromone traps



d) **Para wilt** – Appears when long dry spell followed by heavy precipitation in short time, sudden drying of plants in patches

- ✓ Immediate spray of cobalt chloride (1gm in 100 lit water, 400 lit water/ acre)



e) To improve the **boll size** -2% DAP spray at time of flowering and early boll development stage.

