

**Package of Practice**

# **Fenugreek Cultivation**



**ADVANCING**  
**NORTH EAST**

**An Initiative of North Eastern Council (NEC)**

**Implemented by North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFi)**

**Fenugreek**  
*Trigonella foenum-graecum*  
**Fabaceae**



Fenugreek is the important seed spice in India. Fenugreek is grown as leafy vegetables as well as seeds. Fenugreek seeds are rich in essential aminoacids. Fenugreek leaves are rich in protein, vitamin A & C, niacin, Ca, Fe, and carotene. Seeds are used as condiments and for flavouring food preparations.

**Climate and Soil:** Fenugreek or methi is a cool season crop. The ideal temperature for vegetable growth is 16-20°C and for flowering and fruiting 18-22°C. This crop can be grown in all kinds of soil but well drained loam soil is ideal, with soil pH 6.0-7.0 for better growth and development.

**Varieties:** Rajendra Kanti, Pusa Kasuri, Hisar Sonali, Hisar Mukta, Gujarat Methi, Hisar Madhavi, Pant Ragini, RMt-1, RMt-143, Lam Selection-1.

**Seed rate & sowing time:**

**Seed rate:** 20-25kg/ha. Seeds may be soaked in water upto 6-8hours before sowing for better and quick germination.

**Spacing:** 20-30cm X 10-15cm

Sowing seeds may be done from 1<sup>st</sup> week of October to the second week of November for seed production. The common methi is sown from mid September – mid March for leafy vegetables.

**Manures and Fertilizers:** Apply FYM @10-15tonnes/ ha at the time of field preparation. Recommended fertilizer dose is 60kgN, 40kgP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and 50kg K<sub>2</sub>O per hectare.

**Weed management:** First weeding is done at the time of thinning (25-30days after sowing). Pendimethalin @1kg/ha is pre-emergence or Fluchloralin @1.0kg/ha as pre plant incorporation may be done for weed control.

**Water Management:** About 5-7 irrigations are required for fenugreek crop. Irrigation should be applied 30,70-75, 85-90 and 105-110 days after sowing.

**Harvesting and Yield :** Green desi methi for vegetable purpose is ready for harvesting in 25-30days after sowing. The fenugreek crop seeds mature 80-90days after sowing. Green leaves of fenugreek yield is 90-100q/ha. Average yield of fenugreek seed is 12-15q/ha.



**Post Harvest Management:** The fenugreek seeds are cleaned with the help of vacuum gravity separator or spiral gravity separator. To get good prices and easy marketing, the produce should be graded and stored properly.

**Plant Protection measures:**

**Powdery Mildew:** Dust plant with sulphur 300mesh, @25kg/ha or spray wettable sulphur (0.25%) or Dinocap (0.25%) at 15 days interval after the first appearance of the disease.



**Stem rot and Root rot :** Apply neem cake @1tonnes/ha. Drenching the soil twice with carbendazim 0.1% at 15 days interval.



**Cost and Returns of Fenugreek Crop (Rs/ ha.)**

(approx. Amount in Rs.)

Particulars	Cost & Returns
Land Preparation & development	25000
Cost of Seed	18500
Manures & fertilizer cost	15000
Plant Protection cost	14000
Cost of Irrigation	12000
Cost of Labour wages (sowing, intercultural operations)	15000
Cost of Farm machinery heiring charges and agril equipment	5000
Rental cost of land	20000
Cost of Harvesting	8000
Cost of Marketing	5000
Miscellaneous cost	2000
Total cost of cultivation	139500
Average Yield	15q/ha
Average selling price of Fenugreek	Rs.250/kg
Average Total Income / Return	375000
Net Income	235500

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