

CROPPING SEASONS IN INDIA

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India has many growing seasons due to prevalence of high temperature through a long period. Different crop seasons are:

(a) **Kharif:** Crops are sown at the beginning of the south-west monsoon and harvested at the end of the south-west monsoon.

Sowing seasons-May to July

Harvesting season-September to October

Important crops: Jowar, bajra, rice, maize, cotton, groundnut, jute, hemp, sugarcane, tobacco, etc.

(b) **Rabi:** Crops need relatively cool climate during the period of growth but warm climate during the germination of their seed and maturation.

Sowing season-october-December

Harvesting season-February-April

Important crops: wheat, barley, gram, linseed, mustard, masoor, pea~ and potatoes.

(c) **Zaid:** Besides the kharif and rabi crops, there are certain crops which are being raised throughout the year due to artificial irrigation.

Zaid kharif crops are sown in August-September and harvested in December-January.

Important crops: rice, jowar, rapeseed, cotton, oilseeds.

Zaid rabi crops are sown in February-March. Harvesting is in April-May.

Important crops: watermelon, toris, cucumber, leafy and other vegetables.

Sowing Chart

Sowing Seasons

Month	North India	South India
JANUARY	Brinjal	Lettuce, Spinach, Gourds, Melons, Radish, Carrot, Onion, Tomato, Okra, Brinjal, Bean
FEBRUARY	Applegourd, Bittergourd, Bottle gourd, Cucumber, French Beans, Okra, Sponge, Gourd, Watermelon, Spinach	Same as January
MARCH	Same as February	Amaranthus, Coriander, Gourds, Beans, Melons, Spinach, Okra
APRIL	Capsicum	Onion, Amaranthus, Coriander, Gourds, Okra, Tomato, Chilli
MAY	Onion, Pepper, Brinjal	Okra, Onion, Chilli
JUNE	All gourds, Brinjal, Cucumber, Cauliflower (Early), Okra, Onion, Sem, Tomato, Pepper	Gourds, Solanaeaceae, Almost all vegetables

Month	North India	South India
JULY	All gourds, Cucumber, Okra, Sem, Tomato	Same as June
AUGUST	Carrot, Cauliflower, Radish, Tomato	Carrot, Cauliflower, Beans, Beet
SEPTEMBER	Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Peas, Radish, Tomato, Lettuce	Cauliflower, Cucumber, Onion, Peas, Spinach
OCTOBER	Beet, Brinjal, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Lettuce, Peas, Radish, Spinach, Turnip	Brinjal, Cabbage, Capsicum, Cucumber, Beans, Peas, Spinach, Turnip, Watermelon
NOVEMBER	Turnip, Tomato, Radish, Pepper, Peas, Beet	Beet, Eggplant, Cabbage, Carrot, Beans, Lettuce, Melon, Okra, Turnip
DECEMBER	Tomato	Lettuce, Pumpkin, Watermelon, Muskmelon, Ash gourd, Ridge gourd, Bitter gourd, Bottle gourd, Cucumber, Chilly, Cabbage,

Ideal Germination Conditions

Vegetable	Ideal F	Ideal C	Range F	Range C	Direct/ Transplant	North India	South India
Tinda	77	25	68-85	20-30	Direct	Feb-Mar/ Jun-Jul	Feb-Mar/ Jun-Jul
Beet	70	20	50-75	10-30	Direct	Oct-Nov	Aug-Nov
Bittergourd	77	25	68-85	20-30	Direct	Feb-March/ June-July	Nov-Dec/ Dec-Jan/ Jun-July
Bottlegourd	77	25	68-85	20-30	Direct	Feb-March/ June-July	Nov-Dec/ Dec-Jan/ Jun-July
Brinjal/ Eggplant	85	30	70-95	21-35	Transplant	Jan-Feb/ May-Jun/ Oct-Nov	Jun-Jul/ Oct-Nov/ Jan-Feb
Cabbage	70	20	45-70	10-20	Transplant	Sep-Oct	Jun-Jul/ Oct-Nov
Capsicum	70	21	60-77	15-25	Transplant	Nov-Jan	Jul-Aug/ Oct-Nov/ Jan-Feb
Carrot	80	25	45-85	10-30	Direct	Aug-Sep-Oct	Aug-Nov
Cauliflower (early)	77	25	77-80	25-27	Transplant	Mid-June	Jun-Jul/ Aug-Sep

Vegetable	Ideal F	Ideal C	Range F	Range C	Direct/ Transplant	North India	South India
Cauliflower (late)	65	18	60-70	16-20	Transplant	Aug-Sep-Oct	Jun-Jul
Cauliflower (midseason)	58	15	<60	<16	Transplant	Sep-Oct	Jun-Jul/ Aug-Sep
Cucumber	95	16	60-95	16-32	Direct	Feb-March/ June-July	Jun-July/ Sep-Oct/ Dec-Jan
Frenchbeans	70	20	60-85	16-30	Direct	Feb-March	
Lettuce	75	20	40-80	7-27	Transplant	Sep-Oct	Oct-Dec
Melon	80	27	75-95	22-32	Direct	Jan-Feb	Oct-Jan
Okra	77	25	70-95	20-32	Direct	Feb-Mar/ Jun-Jul	Jan-Feb/ May-Jun/ Oct-Dec
Onion	75	22	50-95	10-32	Transplant	May-Jun	Mar-Apr/ May-June/ Sep-Oct
Peas	75	22	40-75	10-22	Direct	Sep-Oct, Nov	Sep-Oct, Nov
Pepper	85	30	65-95	18-32	Transplant	Nov-Jan/ May-Jun	Jan-Feb/ May-Jun/ Oct-Nov
Radish	85	30	45-90	10-30	Direct	Aug-Jan	(Depending
Sembeans	85	30	77-95	25-35	Direct	Jun-Jul	Jun-Jul, Aug
Spinach	70	22	45-75	10-22	Direct	Sep-Nov/ Feb	Sep, Oct, Nov
Spongegourd	70	22	70-85	20-30	Direct	Feb-Mar/ Jun-Jul	Feb-Mar/ Jun-Jul/ Oct-Nov
Tomato	85	30	70-95	20-30	Transplant	Jun-Aug/ Nov-Dec	Jan-Feb/ Jun-Jul/ Oct-Nov
Turnip	85	30	60-105	15-35	Direct	Oct-Nov	Oct-Nov