

BHENDI

SEASON

Planting can be done during **June-August and February**. The Bhendi is a warm season crop and is cultivated through out the State. Chilled and frost weather not suitable.

Soils

It can be grown in all types of soils, but grows best in friable, well drained soils.

SEED QUANTITY AND TREATMENT

Seed Rate

During rainyseason: 4 – 6 kg During summer: 7- 8 kg Hybrid variety: 2-2.5 kg

Seed Treatment

□ Seeds will be treated with beejamrutham and then be dried in shade and sown

LAND PREPARATION

Plough to attain a good tilth. And 400 kg of Ghanajeevamrutham should be applied

INTERCROPPING

Good returns can be obtained when okra is grown along with French beans or radish

Bhendi with cowpea , clusterbean 2:1

Bhendi with marigold, soyabean 5:1

WEED MANAGEMENT

The plants respond well to inter cultural operations and weeding..

By sowing intercrops they acts as live mulch and it reduce the weed growth and increase profitability to the farmer.

WATER MANAGEMENT

Give pre-sowing irrigation, if soil is not moist enough. During summer, irrigate at intervals of 2 to 3 days

PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT

Bhendi Shoot and Fruit Borers

Damage

- The incidence of fruit bores generally occurs during humid condition after the rainfall.
- Small brown caterpillars bore into the top shoot and feeds inside the shoot before fruit formation
- Later on, they bore into the fruits and feed



Control

- The infected fruits and shoots should be removed regularly and buried in the deep soil
- Set up pheromone traps
- Agnasthram: Mix 2- 3 litres of extract in 100 Ltr water (6 Sprays).
- Seed treatment with bheejamrutham .



Ecology

- Cool and humid conditions are favourable for multiplication while heavy rains wash away the aphid colonies.
- Economic threshold limit is 15-20% affected plants.

Other Hosts

Brinjal, cotton, Ginger, Chilly, Guava etc.

Jassids

Damage

- Tender leaves become yellow.
- The margin of the leaves start curling down wards and reddening sets in.
- In the case of severe infestation leaves get bronze which is typical “hopper burn” symptom.
- The margin of the leaves get broken and crumble into pieces when crushed.
- The leaves dried up and shed and growth of the crop is retarded.



Control

- Firstly apply Tobacco decoction (2 kg tobacco with 100 ltr water) and after 3 days apply 5% Neem Seed Kernel Extract or Neemasthram.
- Neem oil-garlic Mixture at fortnightly interval is advantageous for avoiding pest incidence.
- Apply Neemasthram
- Yellow sticky traps 10 to 20 per acre

RED MITES

Damage

- It occurs at the last stage of crop.
- It is a problem in summer crop .It affects the crop by sucking the sap.



- c. Mites puncture the leaves from under surface and feed on the sap. Later, the upper surface of the leaves turn red and finally the leaves wither and are shed.

Control

- a. Cow Dung urine Asafoetida concoction
- b. Firstly apply Tobacco decoction (2 kg tobacco with 100 ltr water) and after 3 days apply 5% Neem Seed Kernel Extract or Neemasthram.
- c. Neem oil-garlic Mixture at fort nightly interval is advantageous for avoiding pest incidence.

Other hosts: Brinjal and cotton

WHITEFLY

Damage

- a. Highly Polyphagous generally appears from November to February.
- b. Nymphs and adults suck the sap usually from the under surface of the leaves and excrete honeydew
- c. Leaves appear sickly and get coated with sooty mold
- d. Stunted plant growth, shedding of fruit bodies
- e. It also transmits the vein mosaic virus



Control

- a. White flies can be effectively attracted and controlled by yellow/ sticky traps 10 to 20 per acre which are coated with grease/sticky oily materials.
- b. Use White fly tolerant varieties
- c. Spraying 5% NSKE Extract per acre with soap nut solution
- d. Neemasthram.

Ecology

- a. Temperatures around 30°C with high humidity favours multiplication of pest.
- b. Economic threshold: 8-10 adults



Other hosts

- Brinjal, Tobacco, Tomato, Potato, Cotton, Cucumber, Sunflower, Cassava, Sweet potato and Pulses.

DISEASES

POWDERYMILDEW

Damage

- Powdery mildew is very severe on bhendi.
- Greyish powdery growth occurs on the under as well as on the upper surface of the leaf causing severe reduction in fruit yield.
- The disease slows photosynthesis, resulting in a reduction in economic yield
- Severely infected leaves detach and fall to the ground

Control

- Cowurine + dung+ asafoetida liquid
- Spraying of Sour butter milk @ 6 litres for 100 litres of water

YELLOW VEIN MOSAIC OR VEIN CLEARING DISEASE

Damage

- Yellow vein mosaic of okra is a virus disease transmitted by whiteflies and leafhoppers.
- If there yellow vein mosaic in the area ,whiteflies feeding on the infected plants will carry or transmit the virus through its feeding on healthy plants.
- A plant with yellow vein mosaic virus has yellowish mosaic on the leaves, prominent yellowish veins and curling leaves. If infection is severe, plants become stunted and pods are of low quality.
- Infection restricts flowering and fruits ,if formed, may be smaller and harder.
- In a field, most of the plants may be diseased and the infection may start at any stage of plant growth.

Control

- The virus is transmitted by the whitely (*Bemisiatabaci*), So control of this pest will gives better results.
- Application of botanicals like 5% NSKE solution to suppress white fly population when applied after 15 days interval starting from 2 weeks after germination
 - Erection of yellow and white stickers @ 6/acre
 - Spraying of 5% NSKE solution
 - Cow dung + Cow urine + Hing solution

Extracted from:

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