

## Package of Practice for Berseem Cultivation

Berseem (Egyptian Clover) is a highly nutritious and palatable multi-cut fodder crop, playing a vital role in livestock feeding. For higher green fodder yield, farmers should adopt the following agronomic practices:

### Soil and Field Preparation:

Berseem grows best in **fertile loamy soils**. Avoid light sandy soils. Plough the field 3–4 times to make it level and weed-free.

### Time of Sowing:

**October** is the best time for sowing Berseem. Avoid sowing in September due to high temperatures.

### Seed Rate and Seed Treatment:

Use **8–10 kg of Berseem seed per acre**. To improve the first-cut yield, mix **500 g Chinese cabbage (Gobhi sarson)** or **10 kg oat seed** per acre.

For first-time cultivation, treat seeds with **Rhizobium culture**. Mix 100 g jaggery in 1 liter of water, add the culture, and coat the seed. Let the seed dry in the shade before sowing.

### Sowing Method:

Prepare beds and flood them with water. Once the water settles, broadcast the seed evenly.

### Fertilizer Application:

Berseem requires more **phosphorus**. At the time of the last ploughing, apply:

**10 kg nitrogen (22 kg urea)**

**30 kg phosphorus (188 kg single super phosphate)** per acre.

### Irrigation:

First irrigation: 3–4 days after sowing in light soil, 6–7 days in heavy soil.

Irrigate every 15 days, and **every 10 days** from March onward.

### Harvesting:

First cut: **50–60 days** after sowing.

Subsequent cuts: every **30–35 days in winter, 20–25 days in spring**.

Up to **5–6 harvests** are possible.

**Diseases:**

**Stem Rot:** Causes plant stems to rot at the base, forming white fungal growth.

Control: Use disease-free seed and rotate crops.

Spray **100 g Bavistin in 100 liters of water** in affected areas.

**Note:**

These recommendations are based on research center findings. Yield may vary due to soil, weather, pest/disease attacks, and crop management.

Farmers are responsible for their crop outcomes. Local agricultural department guidelines may also be followed.