

## Package of Practice for Okra Cultivation

Okra, also known as Lady Finger, is one of the most popular summer and rainy season vegetable crops grown widely across India. It is rich in essential nutrients and offers excellent market demand for both fresh vegetables and seed production.

### Soil and Climate Requirements

Okra is a warm-season crop and does not tolerate frost. It can be cultivated in a variety of fertile soils, preferably well-drained loamy soil. The ideal temperature for its growth ranges from **18°C to 35°C**.

### Seed Rate (per hectare)

Sowing Season	Hybrid Varieties	Improved Varieties
Feb–March	6.5 kg	35–40 kg
June–July	5.0 kg	12–15 kg

### Ideal Sowing Time by Region

**Hilly Regions:** March to April, and May to June

**Northern Plains:** February, March, and up to mid-July

**Eastern India:** January–February, April–May, and September–October

**Southern India:** January–February, May–July, and October–November

*Note: Sowing periods may vary depending on local climatic conditions.*

### Sowing Method and Spacing

**Kharif Season:** Row to row – 60 cm, Plant to plant – 30 cm

**Summer Season:** Row to row – 30 cm, Plant to plant – 15 cm

For summer crops, soak seeds in water for 12 hours before sowing and plant on ridges for better drainage.

### Fertilizer Management (per hectare)

Apply **15–20 tons of well-decomposed FYM** (Farmyard Manure) during land preparation.

Use NPK in the following split doses:

<b>Application Stage</b>	<b>Nitrogen (N)</b>	<b>Phosphorus (P)</b>	<b>Potash (K)</b>
At land preparation	40 kg	100 kg	100 kg
20 days after sowing	40 kg	—	—
Before flowering	40 kg	—	—
After first harvest	40 kg	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>160 kg</b>	<b>100 kg</b>	<b>100 kg</b>

### **Weed Management**

Before sowing, apply **Fluchloralin (Basalin 45%) – 2.5 liters/ha** mixed in 500 liters of water per hectare.

After spraying, rake the soil 3–4 cm deep for effective weed control in both vegetable and seed crops.

### **Plant Protection Schedule**

#### **10–15 Days After Sowing:**

Spray a mix of:

**Nuvacron – 1 ml/litre or Damecron – 1.5 ml/litre, and**

**Kavach – 2 gm/litre or Bavistin – 1 gm/litre**

#### **20–25 Days:**

Spray **Monocil or Nuvacron – 1 ml/litre + Indofil Z-78 – 1 gm/litre**

#### **35 Days:**

Spray **Sulphur – 2.5 gm/litre + Neemark – 5 gm/litre**

#### **40–45 Days:**

Use **Carbaryl – 4 gm/litre + Indofil Z-78 – 2 gm/litre**

#### **50 Days:**

Spray **Karathane – as per label dose**, repeat after 100–105 and 120–125 days

**80 Days:**

Mix **Sevin 50% WP – 4 gm/litre + Karathane – 0.5 ml/litre** and spray

**Note:** Always add a sticker (spreader) with the spray solution for better efficacy.

**Harvesting**

Okra is ready for the first picking **40–45 days** after sowing.

Harvest should be done every **3–4 days** for tender and market-ready pods.

**Disclaimer**

The above recommendations are based on research data from agricultural research centers. Actual yield and crop performance may vary depending on soil health, weather, crop management practices, pest and disease pressure, and other uncontrollable factors. Farmers are advised to consult with their local agriculture departments for region-specific recommendations and best practices.