



## **Popular Article**

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### **Sesame: Comparison of Farmers practise with Improved practise**

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#### **Abstract**

Sesame important edible oil seed crop. Sesame is photosensitive and thermosensitive crop. Farmers cultivate sesame as neglected and chance crop. Adoption of improved practices is a major gap identified in sesame cultivation resulting in drastic reduction of seed yields. The main objective of this study is to excavate and compare farmers practice and improved practice. Adoption of the key strategies enhances the sesame seed yield.

**Keywords:** Sesame, farmers practice, seed yield, improved practice

#### **Introduction:**

Sesame an important oil edible seed crop. Sesame is photosensitive and thermos sensitive crop. Sesame seeds generally vary in three colors *ie.*, White, Black, Brown seed. Many varieties are released in sesame all over the country. But many of the varieties are area specific due to phot and thermo sensitive nature. Some varieties excel in some areas but may not perform well in other areas. Generally, sesame is cultivated as pure crop and chance crop in some areas. Due to its high remunerative price, farmers interested to grow all through the year. In this present study, discussion is focused on the important cultivation practices in sesame, adopted by farmers and improvement which increases the productivity levels of sesame. Sesame generally falls under neglected crop list compared to all other major crops. Paying little concentration on the cultivation of sesame improves the seed yield and fetches higher returns to the farmers. Sesame oil used in medicines, cosmetics, and industrial uses (Sirisha *et al.*, 2022). The major producing areas in the Country are West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. (Tulasi *et al.*, 2022); The sesame seed and oil are edible and has wide applications in industrial, medicinal, pharmaceutical industries (Elleuch 2007). The sesame is drought resistant crop and grows up well with minimum irrigation. (Sirisha 2022 *et al.*).



**Light irrigation**



**Fine tilth**



**Application of pre-emergence weedicide**



**Sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.) crop**

**Fig 1: Cultivation techniques in sesame**

**Table 1: Key strategies to improve the productivity of sesame in comparison with farmer’s practice**

S. No	Parameter	Farmers Practice	Suggested Improved Practice
1	Season	Sesame crop grown all through the year	Rabi summer (December to February) is suitable season.
2	Soils	Adopted in all types of soils	Recommended in well drained soils, neutral soils. Problematic soils not recommended.
3	Tilth	Farmers adopt the sesame without fine tilth	Fine tilth is recommended as the size of the seed is very small.
4	Weedicide	Not adopted	Application of preemergence weedicide pretilachlor @ 2ml per litre
5	Fertilizers	No fertilizer is applied. Some farmers apply only nitrogen fertilizers. They don't apply phosphatic and Potassium fertilizers.	Recommended dose of fertilizers 16:8:8 NPK is recommended. Phosphatic fertilizers containing Sulphur is very important which improves the oil content, seed yield and seed development. Except nitrogen fertilizers all the fertilizers should be applied as basal.
6	Seeds	High seed rate is adopted 5-6 kgs per acre	2 kgs per acre is recommended.

7	Sowing method	Farmers broadcast the seed	Sow the seed in 1:1 ratio of seed and sand. This technique helps in uniform distribution. Spacious broadcasting of seed results in good development of side branches and capsules.
8	Varieties	Farmers adopt local varieties	Recommended to adopt high yielding suitable variety to their area.
9	Irrigation	As sesame is sensitive to waterlogging, Farmers avoid complete irrigation. They go for sowing on residual moisture. No further irrigation is given. Some farmers give heavy irrigation.	Light Irrigation at flowering and capsule development stage. Heavy irrigation results in death of the plants.
10	Plant protection	Adoption of Plant protection measures and sprays are not adopted.	Recommended plant protection measures must be sprayed.

**Conclusion:**

Sesame seed yield may be improved by adopting the above key strategies and fetches higher returns to farmers. These key points play a vital role in sesame production and results in higher yields.

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