

Recommended package of practices

Barnyard Millet (*Echinochloa frumentacea*)

Varieties

A number of varieties with high yield potential have been released for different states. The list of latest and popular varieties recommended for different states are given below

Barnyard millet		
Sl. No.	State	Varieties
1.	Uttarakhand	VL 172, VL 207, PRJ 1 and VL 29, PRS 1
2.	Uttar Pradesh	VL 172 and VL 207, Anurag, VL 29
3.	Tamil Nadu	CO 1 and CO 2, VL 181, VL 29
4.	Karnataka	VL 172, RAU 11, VL 181
5.	Gujarat	Gujarat Banti- 1

Season

- Tamil Nadu: September –October (Rainfed) and February –March (Irrigated)
- Uttaranchal and North Eastern States: April-May
- Dry seeding prior to the onset of monsoon is practiced in hills.

Spacing and seed rate

Spacing: 25 cms between rows and 10 cm between plants within a row

Seed rate: 8-10 kg ha⁻¹ for line sowing

12-15 kg ha⁻¹ for broad casting

Manuring and fertilization

- Apply 5 tones of farm yard manure per hectare 2-3 weeks before sowing.
- fertilizer required for different states is as follows

States	Fertilizer recommended NPK kg ha ⁻¹
Andhra Pradesh	20:20:0
Bihar and Tamil nadu	40:20:0
Uttar Pradesh	40:20:0
Other states	20:20:0

Bio-fertilizer:

Inoculating seeds with *Agrobacterium radiobacter* and *Aspergillus awamori* is recommended

Weed control

- Two inter cultivations and one hand weeding in line sowing

- Two hand weeding in broadcasted crop.

Cropping system

- Barnyard millet + rice bean in 4:1 row ratio is recommended for Uttaranchal

Diseases

The crop although affected by three different smuts, the grain smut caused by *Ustilago panici-frumentacei* is important.

Control: Pre sowing treatment of the seeds with Thiram or Carbendazim @ 2g/kg.

Pests

Shootfly

It is the most serious pest causing significant yield losses.

Control

Early sowing with the onset of monsoon is an effective and cheapest method of control.