





















# MAIZE FARMING

**technical brief**

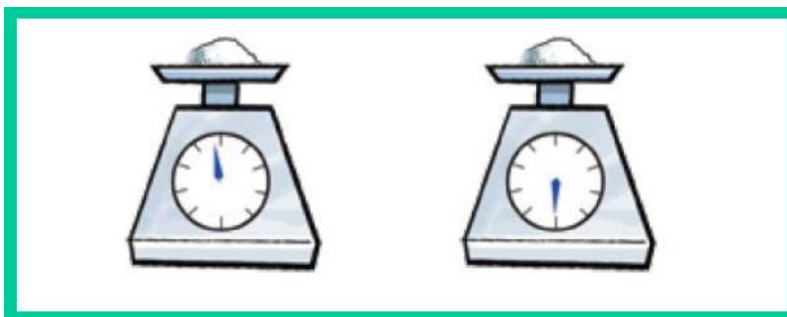
Month/ Region	Apr/ May	May/ Jun	Jun/ Jul	Jul/ Aug	Aug/ Sep	Sep/ Oct	Oct/ Nov	Nov/ Dec	Dec/ Jan	Jan/ Feb	Feb/ Mar	Mar/ Apr
 High hills												
 Mid hills												
 Valley/ lowlands												

## Breeds

- High hill region: Ganesh
- Mid hill region: Manakamana 1, Manakamana 3, Deuti, Sheetala, Poshilo Maize 1
- Lowland, valleys and river banks: Rampur Composite and Arun 2

## Seeding Rate

- Between 1 and 1.5 kg per 0.05 hectare (500m<sup>2</sup>) per land
- Use of good quality seeds provides a good yield



## Preparation of Land

- Land should be ploughed 20 cm deep with a horizontal plough.



- Organic fertilizers should not be exposed to the sunlight or kept open in a heap for long periods.



- After applying the fertilizer, it should be covered with soil by ploughing.



Cattle manure and hybrid manure

- 35–40 baskets of manure per 0.05 hectare (500m<sup>2</sup>) of land should be applied.

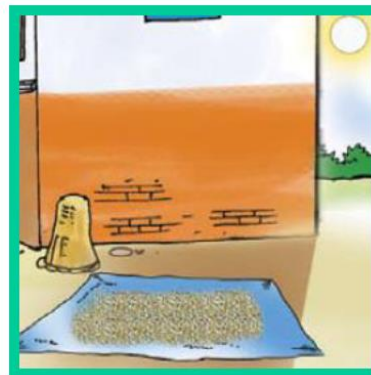


- If available, also apply 5 kg of urea, 3 kg of D.A.P. and 2.5 kg of Muriate of potash.



### Soaking the seeds (priming)

- Seeds should be primed for 8 hours
- Spread the seeds for drying under shade.



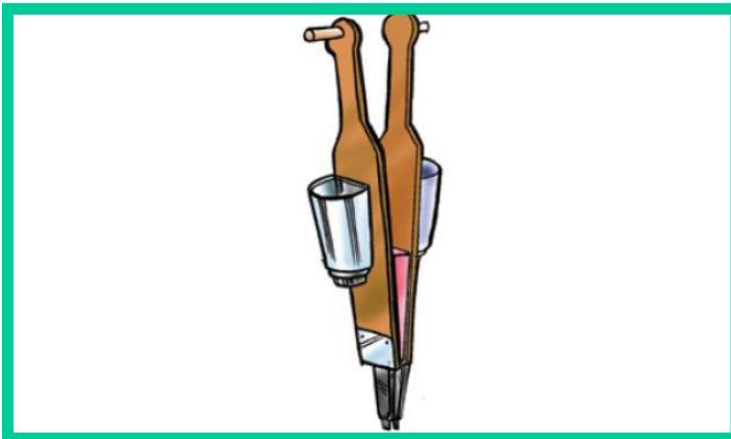
### Sowing the Seed

- The seeds must be sowed in furrow with 5 cm deep soil covering.
- For better growth, soil must have enough moisture. There should be enough moisture if the seeds are soaked.

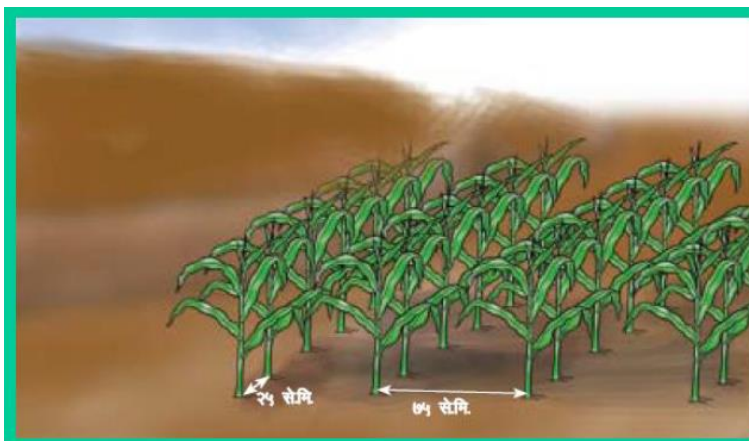
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- Use of manual sowing machines will result in uniform sowing.

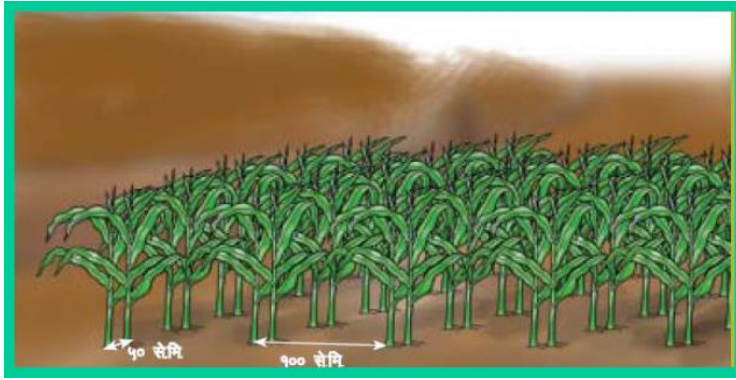


- In case of mono-cropping and single maize plantation, the gap between the rows should be 75 cm and that between the maize plants should be 25 cm.



- In case of two maize plantation and multi-cropping, the gap between the rows should be 100 cm and that between the plants should be 50 cm.

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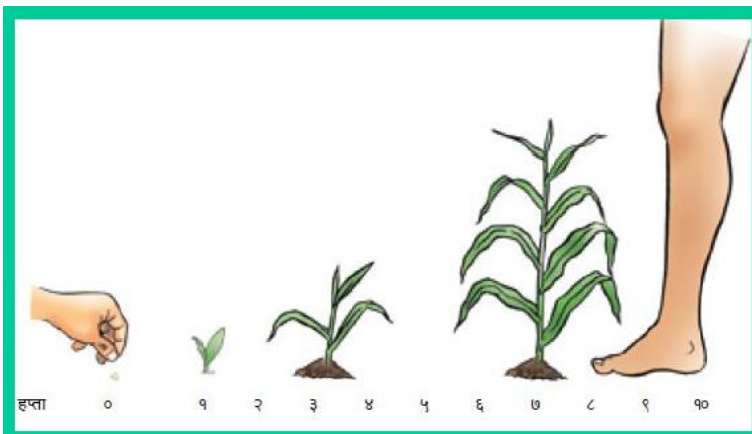


- Within the maize crop, other mixed crops like ginger, tomato, cauliflower, cabbage, radish, eggplant and leguminous plants can be grown. While doing multi-cropping, nutrient elements should be well managed.



Weeding

- The maize plants should be weeded and filled with soil twice: once two weeks after the germination of seeds and the second time after the plants reach the height of a knee.



- If available, use of 2 kg of urea manure per 0.05 hectare land is recommended.

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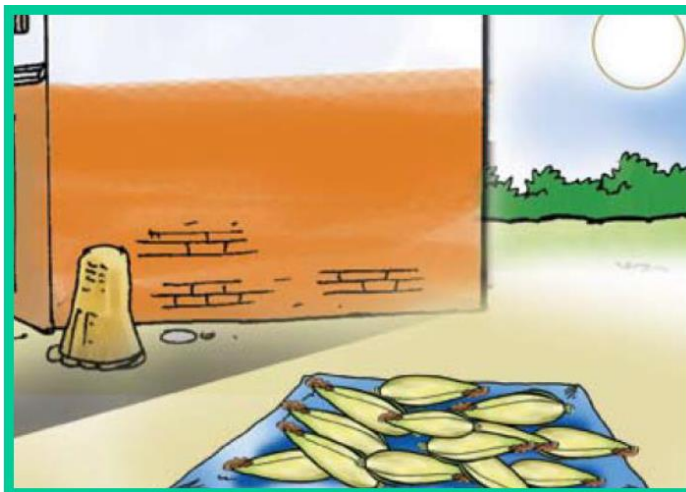


### Picking the Maize

- The maize can be plucked once the maize cobs have dried and there is no need to wait for all plants to dry.



- The maize cobs should be properly dried before storing.

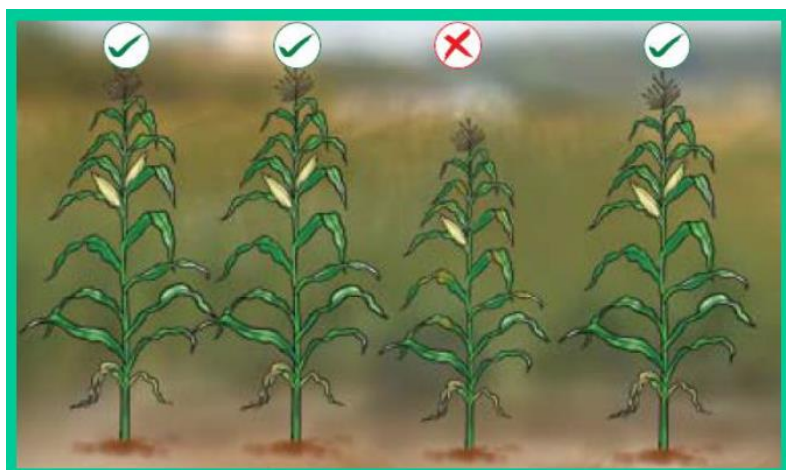


### Selection of Seeds

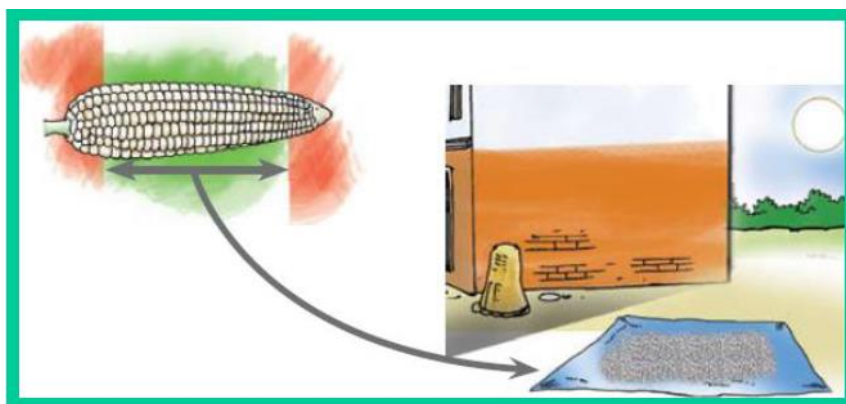
- While selecting seeds, it is very important to select plants with right height, large cobs, joints between the cobs, well covered by skin and not being infected by any disease.

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- While sowing maize for seeds, the hybrid and local varieties should be planted at separate places.



- Leaving one part of the topmost and lowest part of the cobs, maize grains of only two parts should be used as seeds.



(Source: Krishak Sahayogi Pustika: Nepalka Pramukh Tarakari तथा Khadanna Bali Kheti Prabidhi)

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Written by READ Nepal and Practical Action Nepal and translated by Binaya Parajuli in September 2015.

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