

Sesamum (*Sesamum indicum*)

Varieties:

Variety	Year of release	Agro. Zone	Time of sowing	Duration (days)	Yield (q/ha)	Oil content (%)	Seed Colour	Pest & Disease reaction
ST 1683	-	Hill Zone	July to 1 st Fortnight of August	90-95	5-9	-	Black	S to Phytophthora blight & Bacterial Wilt
Punjab Til-1	1975	-do-	-do-	75-85	8-9	-	White	MS to Phytophthora blight & Bacterial Wilt
AST-1 (AAUDT 9304-14-4-1, IC 551415)	2020	-do-	June to 1 st Fortnight of August	80-90	8-10	46	Black	MR to Root Rot, Phyllody, Bacterial Blight and Mite

All the varieties are susceptible to *Phytophthora* blight and bacterial wilt to varying degrees. However, Punjab Til No. 1 is less susceptible to both the diseases.

A second crop, e.g. mustard is possible after sesamum if early maturing varieties, viz., SP 1181 (Madhavi), Gouri and Vinayak are grown.

Soil:

Well drained sandy loam soils are preferable.

Land preparation:

Land should be prepared to a fine tilth by 3-4 ploughings followed by laddering.

Time of Sowing:

July to first fortnight of August for *Phytophthora* blight endemic areas

Spacing:

30 cm between rows 15cm between plants

Seed Rate:

4 kg/ha for both broadcasting and line sowing

Manures and Fertilizers: Compost or FYM should be applied @ 10 t/ha. Fertilizer requirements are as follows:

Nutrient	Requirement (kg/ha)	Form	Fertilizer requirement	
			kg/ha	kg/bigha
N	30	Urea	65	9
P ₂ O ₅	20	SSP	125	17
K ₂ O	20	MOP	33	5

Apply the whole quantity of fertilizer at the time of sowing.

Drainage:

Provide surface drains of 15 cm depth and 25 cm width spaced at 6 m distance connected to a collector drain by the side of the field.

Weeding and Interculture:

One weeding should be done at 20 days after sowing by *khurpi* or hoe. The crop should be thinned out simultaneously to maintain the required spacing within the rows.

Use of honeybee for yield enhancement:

Five (5) *Apis cerena* colonies/ha (1 colony/ bigha) should be installed for effective pollination of Sesame and optimization of productivity.

Plant Protection:

Seeds should be treated with metalaxyl or carboxin @ 2 g /kg of seed against stem rot as well as phytophthora blight. Alternatively seeds should be treated with a commercial formulation of *Trichoderma* spp. @ 5 g/kg of seeds against stem rot and phytophthora blight.

In phytophthora blight endemic areas, sesamum is to be rotated with cereals at every two years. In the case of phyllody disease, the infected plants should be rouged out.

Spray flubendiamide 39.35% m/m SC @ 300 g a.i. /ha for the management of leaf hopper.

Harvesting:

The crop should be harvested when the leaves and stems turn yellow and defoliation starts, or one or two capsules at the bottom start cracking from the tip.