

Setaria grass
(*Setaria sphacelata*)

Varieties : Kazungula, Nandi and PSS-1

Soil Type : Well drained upland soils rich in organic matter should be selected.

Land Preparation:

One ploughing by mould board plough, followed by 2-3 harrowings and plankings are sufficient to prepare the land.

Time of Planting: April to June

Spacing : Row to row: 50 cm
Plant to plant: 50 cm

Rooted Slips Requirement: 40,000/ha (5,000/bigha)

Manures and fertilizers: Apply compost or FYM @ 5 t/ha or 7 q/bigha

Nutrient	Requirement (kg/ha)	Form	Fertilizer requirement	
			kg/ha	kg/bigha
N	120	Urea	265	35
P ₂ O ₅	50	SSP	310	45
K ₂ O	30	MOP	48	7

Nitrogenous fertilizer @ 40 kg/ha should be applied as basal and the rest amount of nitrogenous fertilizer should be applied @ 20 kg/ha after each cut. The entire quantities of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers are to be applied along with the basal dose of nitrogen (40 kg/ha).

Fertilizer savings to the tune of 50% could be possible by application of vermicompost and FYM @ 2.5 t/ha each along with 50% recommended dose of fertilizer.

Interculture:

Intercultural operation in the form of light hoeing is necessary at 30-35 days of planting and also after each cut.

Irrigation:

First irrigation should be applied immediately after planting if a dry spell prevails. Subsequent irrigation will depend upon rainfall.

Number of cuttings:

First cutting is to be taken at 60-65 days after planting and subsequent cutting at an interval of 45-60 days.

Management of old stand of setaria grass:

Stubble shaving at ground level or burning of stubbles in the month of February along with intercultural operation after each cut is recommended.

Green Forage Yield: 800 to 1000 q/ha