

CARROT

*Daucus carota*L.

Variety: Nantes, Pusa Kesar and Chautney

Description:

Nantes: Medium long, slim, well shape orange, cylindrical, stump root; good flavour five grained, tender, sweet, self colour core, small thin tail, flesh orange scarlet; maturity 110-120 days; does not keep well due to thin skin and fine texture; not suitable for seed production in the plains.

Pusa Kesar: Foliage reduced, root red, long, tapering, self coloured narrow central core, maturity 95-110 days, stays longer in field without bolting, seeds freely in the plains, has higher carotene content.

Chautney: Root 11.5-15 cm long, 3-5 cm in diameter with tapering to blunt end; deep orange cortex and core, excellent cultivar for canning and storage.

Soil:

Well drained sandy loam rich in organic matter with pH 6.5.22 q lime/ha to be applied to raise the pH from 4.5 to 6.2.

Field preparation:

The land should be prepared to a fine tilth and FYM to be applied. Liming is necessary in acid soil.

Seed rate: 5.5 – 7.0 kg/ha (0.75- 0.93 kg/bigha)

Time of sowing: Beginning of October to November

Seed treatment:

Prior to sowing, the seed should be well rubbed to remove the fine hairs. The seeds should be soaked in water for 24 hrs dried under shade and to be treated with Carboxin @ 3 g/kg seeds. Seed treatment with 0.1% Boron in the form of Sodium -borate for 24 hours improves the yield.

Spacing:

Seeds should be sown at a depth of 1.5 cm in lines spaced at 30 cm on flat bed and seedlings are to be thinned out to 10 cm within row at 10-15 days after emergence.

Manure and fertilizer:

FYM @ 10 t, N 60 kg, P₂O₅ 30 kg and K₂O 120 kg/ha (1.3 t FYM, 17.6 kg Urea, 25.2 kg SSP, 27.2 kg MOP/bigha). Half of N and full doses of FYM, P₂O₅ and K₂O should be applied as basal and the remaining half of N to be top dressed at 30 days after sowing.

Interculture:

1. **Irrigation:** Field should be properly irrigated before ploughing and subsequent irrigations may be given periodically at 10-15 days interval depending upon soil condition.
2. **Weeding:** First weeding at 20 days and second at 40 days after sowing

Plant protection:

1. **Cut worm and leaf blight:** Apply a mixture of 10 ml of Clothianidin 50WDG @80 g ai/ha and 20 g of Chlorothalonil 75 WP
2. **Nematode:** Apply mustard oil cake on soil @ 300-400 kg/ha, 15 days prior to sowing against root-knot nematode

Yield: 200-250 q/ha.

Benefit: Costratio: 4.93