Recommended package of practices

Foxtail millet (*Setaria italica* L.)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Varieties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>SiA 3088, SiA 3156, SiA 3085, Lepakshi, SiA 326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>SiA 326, HMT 100-1 and PS 4, Sreelaxmi, KO 12, Narasimharaya, SiA 3088, SiA 3156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>TNAU 196 and TNAU 43, CO (Ten) 7, TNAU 186, CO 1, CO 2, CO 4, CO 5, K2, K3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Prathap Kangani (SR 1) and SR 51, SR 11, Sreelaxmi, SR 16, SiA 3085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>PRK 1 and PS 4, SiA 3088, 3085, Sreelaxmi, Narasimharaya, S-114, SiA 326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>PS 4 and PRK 1, Sreelaxmi, SiA 326</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Season
- August – September in Tamil nadu.
- July-August in Karnataka.
- First fortnight of July in Andhra Pradesh.
- Second and third week of July in Maharashtra.
- In Tamil Nadu, *Kharif* irrigated crop is planted from the beginning of June to end of July and summer irrigated crop in January
- Plains of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, middle of June.

Spacing
- 25-30 cm between rows and 8-10 cm between plants within a row

Seed rate
- 8-10 kg ha\(^{-1}\) for line sowing
- 15 kg ha\(^{-1}\) for broadcasting

Manuring and fertilization
Apply 5 tones of farm yard manure per hectare 2-3 weeks prior to sowing. Fertilizer required for different states is as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Fertilizer recommended NPK kg ha(^{-1})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>40:30:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>P:N:K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>40:20:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>30:15:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>20:20:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil nadu</td>
<td>40:20:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other regions</td>
<td>20:20:0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apply entire quantity of phosphorus and half of nitrogen at sowing and remaining half of nitrogen at 30 days after sowing.

**Weed control**
- Two inter cultivations and one hand weeding in line sowing
- Two hand weeding in broadcasted crop

**Cropping systems**

**Inter cropping**

Andhra Pradesh: Foxtail millet + ground nut (2:1 ratio)  
Foxtail millet + cotton (5:1 ratio) - Royal seema regions.  
Finger millet + pigeon pea in 5:1 row ratio.

**Relay cropping**

Andhra Pradesh: If monsoon is early, sow foxtail millet at 45 cm row spacing and introduce *Rabi* jowar as relay crop when foxtail millet is nearing maturity.

**Sequence cropping**

Foxtail millet-mustard, foxtail millet-green gram, foxtail millet-pigeon pea and foxtail millet-sunflower are profitable than one crop of foxtail millet.

**Diseases**

**Control**
Spraying Mancozeb (0.2%) and warrant a spray only if they appear at the early stages of crop growth.
- Grain Smut (*Ustilagocrameri*)

**Control**
Treating the seeds with Carboxin or Carbendazim @ 2g/kg
- Green ear (*Sclerosporagraminicola*)

**Control**
Treating the seeds with Ridomil Mz @ 2g/kg. Rouging out the affected plants.

**Pests**
Army worm, cut worm and leaf scrapping beetle appear occasionally in serious form. In certain areas shootfly occur, although it is not a regular pest.
Control
When pests are noticed, take up dusting of Endosulfan 4% @ 30kg/ha or Malathion 5% @ 8-10 kg/ha.