



## Information of Strawberry Cultivation and Production is Higher Return of Farmers

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**S**trawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) is an important Indian fruit crop and its commercial production can take place in the temperate and tropical regions of the country. Strawberry is grown in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan. The tropical areas of Jammu also have the opportunity to plant crops under irrigated conditions. The fruit is rich in vitamin C and is often eaten fresh as a dessert fruit, used as a cake or pie filling, and can be preserved in many ways. Short Strawberry Cake-made with fresh strawberries, sponge cake, and whipped cream - traditional American dessert.

Strawberries are slow-growing plants with a fibrous root system and the crown from which the base leaves emerges. The leaves are covered, usually with three leaflets, tooth-teeth, and usually hairy. The flowers, usually white, which are rarely red, are carried in small clusters on thin, protruding trunks, like creeping stems above, from the axils of leaves. As the plant grows, the root system becomes more complex, and the “mother” crown sends runners (e.g., stolon’s) that touch the soil and roots, thereby growing the plant material. According to botany, strawberry fruit is considered to be “used fruit” and is not a real fruit.

The flesh consists of a large vase flower and is composed of many real fruits, or achenes, commonly known as seeds. Strawberry thrives in a wide variety of soils and varieties and, compared to other horticultural plants, has a low demand for fertilizer. However, it is in danger of drought and needs soil that retains moisture or irrigation with ditches or spraying. In addition, plants are susceptible to nematodes and pathogenic soil fungi, and many growers kill the soil with chemicals such as methyl bromide before planting. Running plants are planted in early autumn when the crop is needed the following year. If planted in winter or spring, the plants bloom to avoid a poor harvest in the first year. Plants are usually kept for one to four years. Runners may be removed from the separated plants, or a certain number may be allowed to form a marked line near the first parent plants. In areas with severe winters, the plants are removed in the spring and protected the following winter by covering rows with grass or other tree cover.

### The Need for Soil

The Strawberry plant works best on dry sandy soils. Hard waterlogged soils are not suitable for growing strawberries. Soils with a pH between 5.5 - 7 and EC less than 0.7mS / cm are suitable for planting strawberries.

## Bed Preparation

A two-row system in one raised bed is useful for growing strawberries.

- Bed width: 60 cm
- Diameter: 50 cm
- Height: 45 cm

## Basal Dose and F.Y.M.

Basal dose and F.Y.M add to bed preparation time. This basal capacity & F.Y.M improves soil composition and provides nutrients gradually.

F.Y.M. - Ten tons / hectare.

18:46:00 (Ammonium Phosphate - D.A.P.) 50 kg / acre.

Mulching is mainly used in the cultivation of Strawberries, and before planting, a very dark and silver cover sheet is preferred. The main use of plastic mulching is to maintain soil temperature and protect the roots from cold damage. Other benefits of mulching cover help reduce fruit rot, fresh fruit, and soil moisture conservation, irrigation water, prevent weed growth and reduce soil temperature in hot weather, and protect flowers from frost.



## Irrigation

Drip irrigation is used in the cultivation of strawberries. In the drip system, 1- 2 side lines are 16 mm, with a dripper every 30 cm and produce 2 or 4 liter / hour. Maintaining a high level of soil moisture is necessary as Strawberry is a plant with shallow roots and susceptible to drought.

## Planting

### Time to plant Strawberries in India

Maharashtra	August to November
North east	November to January
North India	September to January
South India	January and July

### **Plant Space**

Two rows planted in the same bed a distance between 30 cm x 30 cm. The total number of plants per hectare is 24,000 plants.

### **Planting**

Well, the improved root plant says Choose to plant. The selected plant will be planted in the bed while planting and caring for part of the crown of the plant. This part of the crown should not touch the soil from 1/3 of the plants. After that, water the bed using a sprinkler & moisture retention on the bed.

### **Plant Lifecycle**

The life of the strawberry plant is 8 - 9 months. After planting, if the conditions are right for the desired growth of the plant, the plant will start to flower about 35 - 40 days after planting.



### **Harvesting**

When the Strawberry fruit gets 50% -75%, the natural red colour begins to be harvested. The best time to harvest Strawberries in the morning. Strawberry is harvested 3-4 times a week. Strawberry fruits are harvested in small trays or baskets.