

# Advisory for Green Fodder Production

ICAR-NIANP  
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1. Select perennial forage crops with supplemental irrigation to have green fodder round the year.
2. Prepare field by disc ploughing followed by two rounds of harrowing and levelling.
3. Irrigate forage crop at 7-15 days interval during dry periods for higher green fodder yield.
4. Use sprinklers or drip system for efficient use of limited water resources.
5. If irrigation facilities are available, use popular hybrid napier bajra varieties (Co-3, Co-5, Sampooma (DHN-6), Super napier: Pakchong-1) to produce maximum green fodder per unit area.
6. For perennial forage crops, practice first cut at 65-70 days after planting and subsequent cuts at an interval of 55-60 days.
7. Apply at least 25 kg of nitrogen per acre after each cut, apply NPK fertilizers yearly to get higher fodder yield from perennial forage crops.
8. For rainfed conditions, use perennial drought tolerant Jowar varieties (Co FS-29 and Co FS-31) that gives 5 cuts per year with supplemental irrigation.
9. Mix jowar with sand or finely powdered manure, sown in lines spaced one foot (30 cm) apart.
10. At least 5 tons of farm yard manure needs to be applied per acre to improve fertility as well as the water holding capacity of the soil.
11. Apply N: P: K @ 35:18:18 Kg per acre to obtain more green fodder from jowar crop.
12. Small stake holders with marginal land can cultivate protein rich legume forages (hedge lucerne, cowpea, lucerne, stylo etc.) in small area and plant popular fodder trees (Sesbania, Melia, Calliandra, Erythrina, Moringa etc) on the bunds and around the farm for balanced feeding.
13. Tree leaves are a good source of protein and minerals.
14. Tree leaves can be lopped and fed as fresh or they can be dried and stored for feeding during the lean periods.



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