

(ii) JUTE (*Corchorus olitorius* & *Corchorus capsularis*)

CROP MANAGEMENT

Jute can be successfully grown in Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Villupuram, Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Chengleput and parts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Tiruchirapalli, Perambalur, Karur, Pudukkottai and Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi districts where assured supply of irrigation water is available for its cultivation and retting for fibre extraction.

Soil type: Alluvial sandy loam, clay loamy soils are best suited for jute production. Capsularis jute can grow even in standing water especially towards the latter part of its growth, but Olitorius jute will not thrive in standing water. The latter is more drought resistant and is therefore grown on lighter soils.

Season: February

Land Preparation: Fine tilth is required since the seeds are very small

Manures and fertilizer application: Five tonnes of well decomposed farm yard manure is to be applied during last ploughing. Besides 20 kg per ha each of N, P₂O₅ and K O are to be applied. basally. Beds and channels are formed depending on water resources.

Varieties: Capsularis JRC 212, JRC 321, JRC 7447
Olitorius j JRO 524, JRO 878, JRO 7835

Crop duration 120 to 140 Days

Seed rate and sowing: Seeds can be sown either by broadcasting or by line sowing.

Jute type	Seed rate (kg/ha)		Spacing (cm)	No. of Plants/ Sq. Mtr.
	Line Sowing Casting	Broad		
Olitorius	5	7	25 x 5	80
Capsularis	7	10	30 x 5	67

Weed management: Hand weeding twice on 20 - 25 DAS and 35 - 40 DAS. Fluchloralin can be sprayed at 3 days after sowing at the rate of 1.5 kg per hectare and is followed by irrigation. Further one hand weeding can be taken up at 30 - 35 DAS.

Top dressing of fertiliser: Apply 10 kg of N at 20 - 25 days after first weeding and then again on 35 - 40 days after second weeding as top dressing. During periods of drought and fertilizer shortage, spray 8 kg of urea as 2 per cent urea solution (20 g urea in one litre of water) on jute foliage on 40 - 45 as well as 70 - 75 DAS.

Water Management: Jute crop requires 500 mm of water. First irrigation is to be given after sowing and life irrigation on fourth day after sowing. Afterwards irrigation can be given once in 15 days.

Harvest: Jute crop can be harvested from 100 to 110 DAS but can be extended from 120 - 135 DAS depending on local cropping systems. Jute plants are left in the field for 3 - 4 days for leaf shedding. Then thick and thin plants are sorted out and bundled in convenient size.

Yield: The green plant weight yield is 45 to 50 tonnes per hectare whereas the fibre yield is to 2.5 tonnes per hectare.