**DEVELOPMENT STAGES GROUNDNUT AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICES**

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**Plants and Harvesting Days (For Long Duration Variety)**

- **A** Prepare land early so that seed can be planted early after first rains.
- **B** Ensure good weed control.
- **C** If possible, fertilize with SSP or TSP before planting.
- **D** Choose good quality seed.
- **E** Dress seed with thiram to control fungal and bacterial growth.
- **F** Sow at 5–6 cm depth.
- **G** Space at 45 x 7.5–10 cm for bunch type varieties.
- **H** Space at 45 x 10–15 cm for semi-erect type varieties.
- **I** Ensure good weed control.
- **J** Avoid earthing up plants when using hoe.
- **K** Check for aphids or leaf miners and control if necessary.
- **L** Check for pests and diseases and control where necessary.
- **M** If weeding is required use hand pulling.
- **N** Check for pests and diseases and control where necessary.
- **O** Harvest when 70% or more pods are mature.
- **P** Use dark markings on inside of shell.
- **Q** Seeds should be plump and correct colour for variety.
- **R** If crop is severely defoliated (95%) or sprouting has begun, harvest straight away.
- **S** Clean excess soil from pods.
- **T** Wilt/dry in windrows for 3–5 days.
- **U** Dry pods on mats for a further 2–5 days.
- **V** If A-frames or cocks used, dry for 3–4 weeks and then pick off the pods.
- **W** Do not dry any further after picking.
- **X** Before storing remove poor, damaged, shrivelled, rotten or fungus-infected pods.
- **Y** Store pods in gunny bags in a cool, dry, well ventilated store.
- **Z** Do not store moist groundnuts.
- **AA** Do not use plastic or polyweave bags.

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