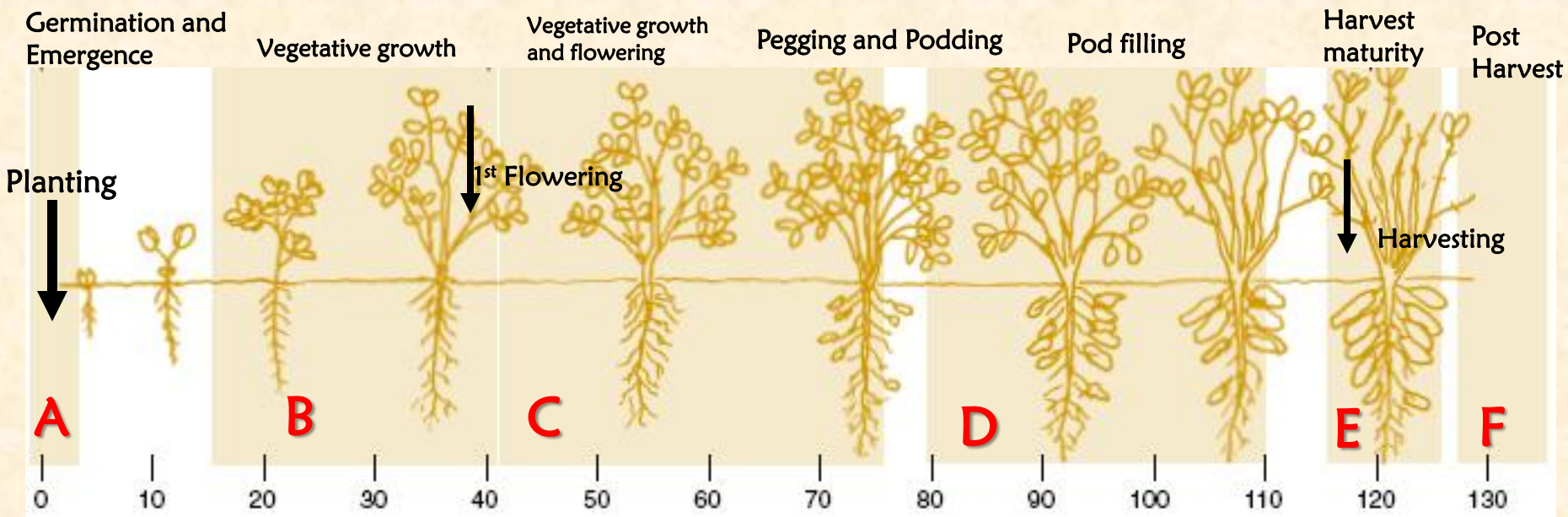


DEVELOPMENT STAGES GROUNDNUT AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICES

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Days (For Long Duration Variety)

A

- > Prepare land early so that seed can be planted early after first rains.

- > If possible, fertilize with SSP or TSP before planting.

- > Choose good quality seed.

- > Dress seed with thiram to control fungal and bacterial growth.

- > Sow at 5–6 cm depth.

- > Space at 45 x 7.5–10 cm for bunch type varieties.

- > Space at 45 x 10–15 cm for Semi-erect type varieties

B

- > Ensure good weed control.

- > Avoid earthing up plants when using hoe.

- > Check for aphids or leaf miners and control if necessary.

C

- > Ensure good weed control.

- > Weed by hand pulling to avoid earthing up and damage to pegging.

- > Check for pests and diseases and control where necessary

D

- > If weeding is required use hand pulling.

- > Check for pests and diseases and control where necessary.

E

- > Harvest when 70% or more pods are mature.

- > Use dark markings on inside of shell.

- > Seeds should be plump and correct colour for variety.

- > If crop is severely defoliated (95%) or sprouting has begun, harvest straight away.

- > Clean excess soil from pods.

- > Wilt/dry in windrows for 3–5 days.

F

- > Dry pods on mats for a further 2–5 days.

- > If A-frames or cocks used, dry for 3–4 weeks and then pickoff the pods.

- > Do not dry any further after picking.

- > Before storing remove poor, damaged, shrivelled, rotten or fungus-infected pods.

- > Store pods in gunny bags in a cool, dry, well ventilated store.

- > Do not store moist groundnuts.

- > Do not use plastic or polyweave bags

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