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VEGETABLESCIENCE

RESEARCHGATE:

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GOOGLE SCHOLAR:

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Fj1lUPoAAAAJ&hl=en&authuser=1>

KnolKhol

(Brassica oleraceae var. gongylodes)

Family: *Brassicaceae*

*Origin : Mediterranean region
(North Europe)*

- ▶ The cultivation of knolkhol or Kohlrabi in India is not very popular except in Kashmir, W.B. and some parts of the south.
- ▶ KnolKhol is characterized by the formation of tuber which arises as thickening of the stem tissue above the cotyledons.
- ▶ This tuber or knob develops entirely above the ground. This portion is used for vegetable. Young leaves are also used.
- ▶ It is high in minerals like Ca, Mg, P, Na & S.
- ▶ It also contains protein, carbohydrates, Vitamin A & C.
- ▶ Knobs are either used as cooked or as boiled vegetable.
- ▶ Also used as salad.
- ▶ Leaves are also used in preparation of soup.

CLIMATE

- ❖ It is mainly grown as a winter vegetable crop and thrives well in a relatively cool moist climatic conditions.
- ❖ **Seeds of knolkhol germinate well at 15-30°C.**
- ❖ Optimum temperature for its growth is between 15-25°C depending upon cultivars.
- ❖ **Early varieties are more prone to premature bolting.**
- ❖ When grown below 15°C for longer period, these varieties produce flowering stalks directly without forming knobs.
- ❖ **High temperature after planting can delay the bolting of plants.**
- ❖ Crop grows well for the tuber production at 20-25°C though the quality is better under lower temperature.
- ❖ **Purple varieties are more susceptible to pre-mature bolting.**

Soils

- ❖ **All types of soil though it makes no high demand upon it.**
- ❖ **Good condition and fertility favour growth in a uniform manner.**

Planting Time

Under North eastern plains.

	Seed sowing	Transplanting time
Early crop	August	September
Main crop	September	October
Late crop	October	November
Hills	March-April	May-early June

Himachal Pradesh

	Seed sowing
Low Hills	July-October
Mid Hills	July-October
High Hills	March-July

Planting Distance

- 30-40 cm x 20-25 cm (30 x 20 cm in H.P.)
- Optimum yield obtained at 30 cm x 25 cm.

Seed Rate

⇒ 800-1000 g/ha (950-1000g in H.P.)

Manures and Fertilizers

FYM (q/ha)	N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O
	(Kg/ha)		
200-250	100	80	80

- ☺ Half of N and full P and K fertilizers should be applied as basal (at transplanting) and half N one month after sowing planting.

Interculture and Weed Control

- ❖ Proper moisture should be maintained during its growth.
- ❖ Pre-planting application of weedicide followed by hoeing & weeding in the later stage will keep the crop free of weeds.
- ❖ Any check in the growth will cause development of fibrous knobs.

Harvesting and Yield

- ✓ Harvest tubers before fully grown, because old tubers eventually become fibrous.
- ✓ Generally, tubers of 5-8 cm dia & bright colour along with the foliage are favoured in the market.
- ✓ Late varieties may attain 10-12 cm dia at harvesting stage.
- ✓ For its marketing, the main root is cut off & the enlarged stem along with the leaves are tied up.
- ✓ Individual tuber may weigh 200-250g
- ✓ The yield/ha may vary from 12-25 t/ha under Indian conditions.