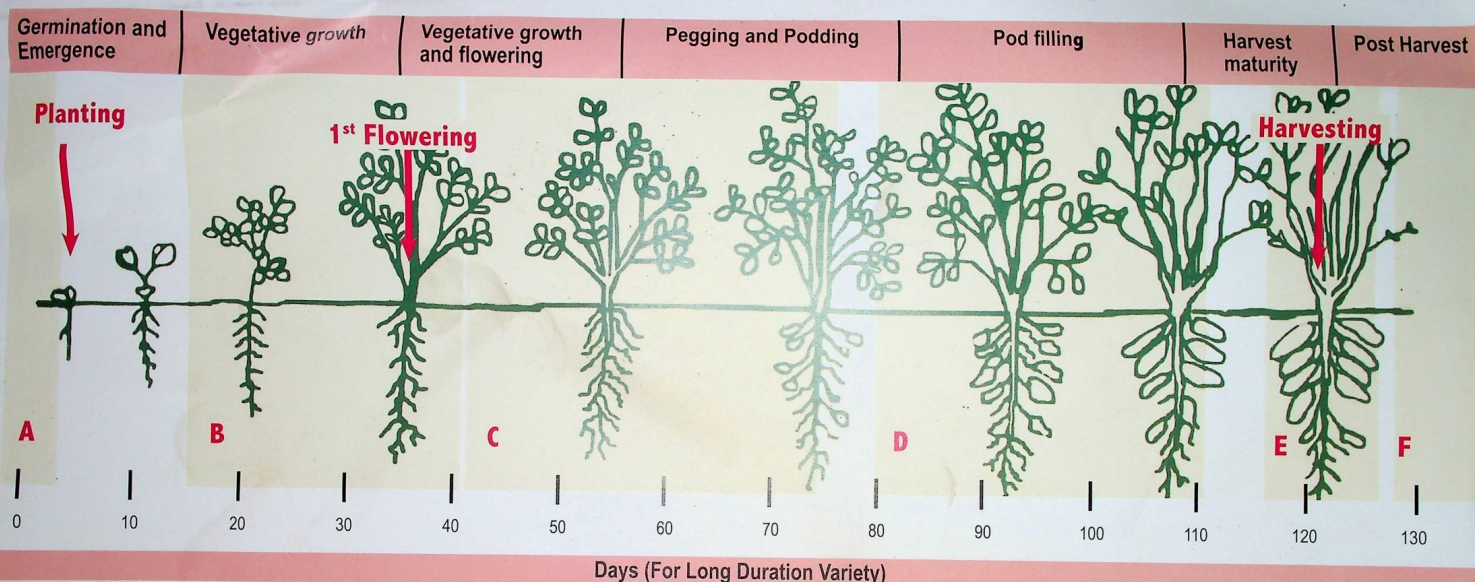


GROUNDNUT DEVELOPMENT STAGES AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR QUALITY SEED PRODUCTION



- 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, shriveled, 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

