

# ICAR – Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research Anand, Gujarat

## 1. Advisory on Hygiene awareness for farming operations

1. Due to pandemic spread of COVID 19, the Government of India has ordered a nationwide lockdown/curfew for its effective containment. However, guidelines/exemptions applicable for farmers and farming sector during lockdown/curfew period have been issued so that farmers can continue farming operation and harvesting of crops.
2. Farmers are advised to follow strictly the guidelines for stopping the spread of COVID 19 during any farming operations.
3. Some of the important points to be followed are (1) Frequent cleaning of hand using soap or any disinfectant, (2) Keeping distance among the farmers who are engaged in farming operations, (3) use of masks (4) NO exchange small farm implements *viz., khurpi, kudat, etc.* among the workers, and clean the handles of common equipments using soap solutions before using etc.
4. State governments also issued different guidelines to be followed during farming operations in local languages and farmers are advised to follow these guidelines strictly.
5. Isabgol (*Plantago ovata*), Asalio/Chandrasur (*Lepidium sativum*), Ashwagandha (*Withania somnifera*), Opium poppy (*Papaver somniferum*) are the major seasonal rabi medicinal crops having harvesting operation going on or still awaiting, however, recent rains during 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> week of March has delayed the harvesting of many crops in North India.

## 2. Advisory to farmers especially on harvesting operations

The status of harvesting of some of the MAP species is given below as advisory to farmers :

State	Status of Harvesting
Gujarat	<b>Isabgol:</b> More than 95% of crops have been harvested and only very late sown crop to be harvested <b>Asalio:</b> More than 95% of crops have been harvested and only very late sown crop to be harvested
Rajasthan	<b>Isabgol:</b> More than 50% isabgol have been harvested before the untimely rains. However, the very late sown crop is being harvested in the end of March, 2020. <b>Ashwagandha:</b> This crop does not have any negative effect due to untimely rain in the month of March. The crops are being harvest from end of March to first week of April <b>Opium:</b> Early and timely sowing crops have been harvested. However, the late sown crops are still standing in the field and harvesting will be done in the month of April (1 <sup>st</sup> first fortnight). The farmers are advised to do the harvest immediately they get the dry

	weather and no moisture is there on the outside of the capsule due to rain.
Uttar Pradesh	<p><b>Opium poppy-</b> Due to untimely rain and hail storm during February and March 40-50% crop will be affected and lancing of capsules cannot be done in late sown areas. The harvesting of capsule is delayed which will start in first week of April. The farmers are advised to do the harvest immediately they get the dry weather and no moisture is there on the outside of the capsule due to rain. Where ever lancing operation could not be done due to rain or hailstorm damage, advice of the Narcotic Department is strictly followed for the disposal of the crop.</p> <p><b>Isabgol-</b> Due to untimely rain during February and March, the Isabgol is affected. Harvesting will start in the last week of March to first week of April.</p> <p><b>Asalio-</b> Due to untimely rain during February and March, the asalio crop is affected. Harvesting of crop can be initiated in the first week of April.</p> <p><b>Ashwagandha-</b> This crop does not have any negative effect due to untimely rain in the month of March. Harvesting of ashwagandha can be initiated from the first week of April.</p>
Madhya Pradesh	<p><b>Opium:</b> More than 90 % crop has been harvested (lancing) and seed harvesting will be done in March end or April first fortnight. However, those who got late licensing have sown the crop late and the crop is still in the field. The farmers are advised to do the harvest immediately they get the dry weather and no moisture is there on the outside of the capsules due to rain. Latex harvesting should be done in the dry weather condition</p> <p><b>Isabgol:</b> This year the area under isabgol is less due to heavy and good rain, the farmers opted the other alternative crops. Almost all the isabgol have been harvested in time i.e. before the untimely rain. In the remaining places yield may be reduced because of seed shattering due to untimely rain during late March.</p> <p><b>Ashwagandha:</b> This crop does not have any negative effect due to untimely rain in the month of March. The crops are being harvest in the first week of April.</p> <p><b>Asalio:</b> The crop is ready to harvest within a week.</p>
Haryana	<b>Isabgol:</b> The crop was not affected due to the untimely rain. It can be harvested after mid April 2020
Bihar	In Bihar, Rabi MAP crops are in first stage of harvesting at some places. In the remaining areas, harvesting will start from first week of April as per guideline issued by Government of Bihar vide his letter no. 1626 dated 26/03/2020.
Odisha	<p><b>Sarpagandha:</b> The harvesting of Sarpagandha roots were already taken up during December, 2019 to February, 2020.</p> <p><b>Long pepper:</b> It is a perennial crop of about 4-5 years crop duration. 80 % of roots (Piplamool) and fruits of Long pepper were harvested. The rest will be harvested after 14th April, 2020.</p> <p><b>Lemongrass:</b> The crop duration is about 4-5 years. Lemongrass</p>

	leaves are harvested and essential oil is extracted in every 75 days. However, due to present lock down, it is almost ceased and the operation will be resumed after 14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020.
Assam	In Assam, the commercial cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants is very sporadic and mostly collected from forest by different agents. However, few crops like Lemon grass, Citronella, Patchouli and Vetiver are grown commercially in few pockets. The harvesting time of above mentioned crops are mostly in summer and rainy months only. From November to February is the lean period. Similar is the case for medicinal plants like Pipali, Homalomena, <i>etc.</i> From March new plantation starts.
Chhattisgarh	As compared to traditional crops, medicinal and aromatic crops like lemon grass, citronella, palmarosa, aloe vera, vetiver, etc were less affected due to untimely rains and hailstorm.

### 3. Use of Digital Platform

Advisory to farmers for harvesting operations in different medicinal and aromatic plants and hygiene awareness for farming operation in English has been uploaded on Institute website on 31.03.2020.

Advisory to farmers for harvesting operations in different medicinal and aromatic plants and hygiene awareness for farming operation in Hindi has been uploaded on Institute website on 6.4.2020.

# AICRP ON MEDICINAL & AROMATIC PLANTS AND BETELVINE

## **AICRP ON MAPB, Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan Centre**

### **1. Advisory and Hygiene awareness**

Press release on Advisory and Hygiene awareness AICRP ON MAPB, Solan Centre



### **1. Support and use of digital platform**

Hand Sanitizer prepared and distributed as per WHO guidelines

<https://www.cityairnews.com/content/nauni-varsity-releases-herbal-moisturizing-sanitizer>

<https://thenewshimachal.com/2020/03/coronavirus-nauni-university-developed-herbal-sanitizer/>

<https://www.outlookindia.com/mewsscroll/himachal-varsity-develops-herbal-hand-sanitizer/1776550>

<https://dailyworld.in/himachal-varsity-develops-herbal-hand-sanitizer/>

<https://www.canindia.com/himachal-varsity-develops-herbal-hand-sanitizer/>

[https://hindi.news18.com/news/himachal-pradesh/solan-himachal-nauni-university-made-hand-herbal-sensitizer-hpvk-2953675.html?utm\\_source=social\\_share\\_article](https://hindi.news18.com/news/himachal-pradesh/solan-himachal-nauni-university-made-hand-herbal-sensitizer-hpvk-2953675.html?utm_source=social_share_article)

## AICRP ON MAPB, Bihar Agricultural University, Islampur Centre

### 1. Advisory and Hygiene awareness



**BIHAR AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, SABOUR, BHAGALPUR**  
**Betelvine Research Centre, Islampur, Nalanda**



### Farmers Advisory for MAPs growing farmers in Bihar

Mentha crops are transplanted in some part of Bihar (Patna, Munger, Begusrai, Betiya and other district) under 70% area of MAPs out of 2600 ha and remaining area is under process of transplanting menthe which will be done as per guideline issued by Government of Bihar vide his letter no. 1626 dated 26/03/2020 (kindly find attachment). with marinating social distancing during lock down period due to ccovid19 . Some of the farmers who are going to transplant their menthe crops are given below with some photo graphs

Sl.no.	Farmers name & Address	Crops
1	Sri Prakash Ray, Viil-Rampur, Post- Chausa, District-Buxer Mob no.9608922928	Mentha
2	Sri Ashok kumar Singh, Viil-Rupaspur, Post-Nawanagar, District-Buxer Mob no.9304109412	Mentha
3	Sri Rambrix Prasad singh, District-Begusarai Mob no.6205703143	Mentha
4	Sri Pankaj singh, District-Begusarai Mob no.9709819258	Mentha
5	Sri Ramkishor Prasad singh, District-Begusarai Mob no.9931959934	Mentha
6	Sri Rambilash singh, District- Munger Mob no.9525861029	Mentha
7	Sri Pramanand singh, District-Munger Mob no.6200693134	Mentha
8	Sri Ajay kumar prasad, District-Betiya Mob no.9934635102	Mentha
9	Md. Hamid Khan District- Siwan Mob no.9708250037	Mentha
10	Sri Krishna ji AT-Naubatpur Disrict-Patna	Mentha & Lemongrass