

Banana

Planting

Planting :

Season of Planting

Planting can be done in May-June or in September - October

Spacing :

Before planting the land is manured by using 50 tones of FYM /ha. In case of planting in the pits 10-15kg of FYM is added/pit. Spacing varies according to the cultivar, soil fertility and season of planting. The following are some common spacing schedules for the different cultivars-

Cultivar	Spacing (m)	No. of Suckers	
		Per ha	Per acre
'Poovan' 'Monthan' 'Rasthali' 'Kali (Nadan)' 'Nendran'	2.13 x 2.13 or 2.1 x 2.1	2150	870
Dwarf Cavendish	1.7 x 1.7 Or	3550	1440
('Basrai', 'Kabuli')	1.8 x 1.8	3000	1210
'Robusta' (Harichal)	1.8 x 1.8	3000	1210
'Nendran'	1.8 x 1.8 Or 2.4 x 2.4	1700	684
'Hill Banana'	2.4 x 3.0	1350	545
	4.1 x 3.6	670	270
	4.8 m x 4.9 m	420	170
Export quality banana	1.7 x 1.75		

In case of **tissue culture plantlets** a spacing of 1.65 x 1.65 m is adopted. Pits of size 45cm x 45cm x 45 cm are dug at the recommended spacing. The pits with equal quantities of topsoil, well decomposed FYM and sand in 1:1:1 proportion. Polybag may be slit and removed and the plant be inserted into the centre of the filled pit without disturbing the roots. The soil level must be maintained at the same level as in the polybag.

Methods of Planting :

There are two methods of planting :

Pit method : Pits of 0.5m x 0.5m x 0.5m are dug for planting the rhizomes. However this method is very laborious and expensive. The only advantage is that no earthing up is required as planting is done at the required depth. This practice is not very popular at present.

Furrow method : This is a very common method in which furrows of 20-25cm depth are opened by a tractor or ridger at a distance of 1.5m and rhizomes are planted in the furrows. In this method earthing up needs to be frequently done to cover the exposed rhizomes.