

Cauliflower

Soil & Climate

Soil :

Cultivation of cauliflower is done mainly on sandy to heavy soils rich in organic matter. Early crops prefer light soil while late crops thrive better on heavier soils due to retention of moisture. On heavy soils, plants grow more slowly and the keeping quality is improved. A pH range of 5.5-6.5 is considered as optimum for growing cauliflower. Plants growing in saline soils are prone to diseases.

Climate :

In India, cauliflower is grown in large areas having a cool and moist climate. The cauliflower varieties are very sensitive to temperature. For good seed germination, a temperature of 10-21°C is required. A temperature range of 15-21°C is considered as optimum for growth and curd formation of the crop. Temperature below 10°C during growth delays maturity and undersized small unmarketable buttons are formed. High temperature during maturity will result in yellowish leafy curds. It is therefore essential to choose proper variety to be sown at proper time