

TPTC 29- High Yielding Variety Of Cowpea

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In Andhra Pradesh state cowpea is a major grain legume crop. It is one of the major and cheap protein sources for rural and urban people. Cowpea leaves can be used for fodder purpose, green pods can be consumed as vegetable and dried seed is used for consuming by preparing food products and also for seed purpose. Protein content of cowpea leaves range from 27 to 43% and protein concentration of the dry grain range from 21 to 33%. It is drought tolerant and adapted to stressful environments where many crops fail to grow. In Chittoor district, farmers are growing local varieties which are highly susceptible to pests and diseases and also pod and seed size are smaller which is reducing market value and also increasing cost of cultivation. In order to overcome these problems a new variety of Cowpea TPTC 29, released by RARS, Tirupati in the year 2017.

Package of practices

- ✚ **Soil:** well drained loam or slightly heavy soils are suitable for this crop
- ✚ **Varieties:** TPTC-29. It is moderately resistant to dry root and yellow mosaic virus. It is used as vegetable and also for seed purpose because of its long pod and bold seed.
- ✚ **Crop duration:** 85-90 days
- ✚ **Seed rate:** 8-10 kg/acre
- ✚ **Spacing:** 45 cm row to row and 30 cm plant to plant
- ✚ **Seed treatment:** Treat the seed with Carbendazim or Thiram @2gm/kg of seed.
- ✚ **Season:** Suitable for Kharif, rabi and summer season.
- ✚ **Manures and fertilizers:** Apply FYM 2 tons/acre as basal application. Apply 8 kg Nitrogen, 20 kg phosphorus and 10 kg potash per acre.
- ✚ **Weed management:** Application of Pendimethalin 30% @ 1-1.5 lit/acre immediately after sowing.

- ✚ **Water requirement:** Generally, crop required 5-6 irrigation depending on soil, prevailing weather conditions etc., at an interval of 10-15 days. Crop can tolerate flooding upto 2 days at flowering and pod setting thereafter, a marked decrease in yield and its attribute.
- ✚ **Harvesting:** Harvesting time of cowpea as vegetable is 70 to 75 days after sowing
- ✚ **Yield:** 10-11q/ha.



Source: rarstpt.org