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## KISAN ADVISORY

### Advisory to farmers during lockdown due to COVID 19

As a follow up to the National level Agro-advisory issued by ICAR on farming issues of immediate interest to cope up with the present unprecedented situation due to lock down against COVID 19 for dovetailing the safety measures with current farming operations such as timely measures in harvesting, post-harvest management, storage and marketing in standing field and horticultural crops, the Farmers are advised to adopt Following Precautions and Safety Measures to avoid the field level contagious spread of Corona virus in agrarian activities

#### General Precautions and Safety Measures:

#### Maintain Social Distancing

- In case of manual field operations of harvesting/ picking, accomplish the operation in 4-5 feet spaced strips assigning one strip to one person. This will ensure adequate spacing between the engaged labour.
- All the persons engaged should use masks and ensure proper hand washing with soap at reasonable intervals.
- Maintain safe distance of 3-4 feet during rest, taking of meals, transfer of produce at collection point, loading/ unloading.
- Stagger the field operations wherever possible and avoid engaging more number of persons on the same day.
- Engage only the healthy persons to the extent possible and after reasonable enquiry as to avoid the entry of any suspect or likely carrier during field activity.
- Prefer mechanized operations over the manual ones wherever feasible for which the farmers can avail the services of Custom Hiring Centres in their vicinity. Only the essential number of persons should be allowed to accompany the machine.
- All machines should be sanitized at the entry point and at regular intervals. All transport vehicles, gunny bags or other packaging material should also be sanitized.
- The collection of the produce may be done in small heaps spaced at 3-4 feet and field level processing should be assigned to 1-2 persons per heap to avoid crowding.
- In case the farm level storage is possible, avoid immediate rush to the market.
- Follow the standard safety measures during the visit to market for the purchase of inputs/sale of produce.



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