

# Crop calendar



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## Introduction

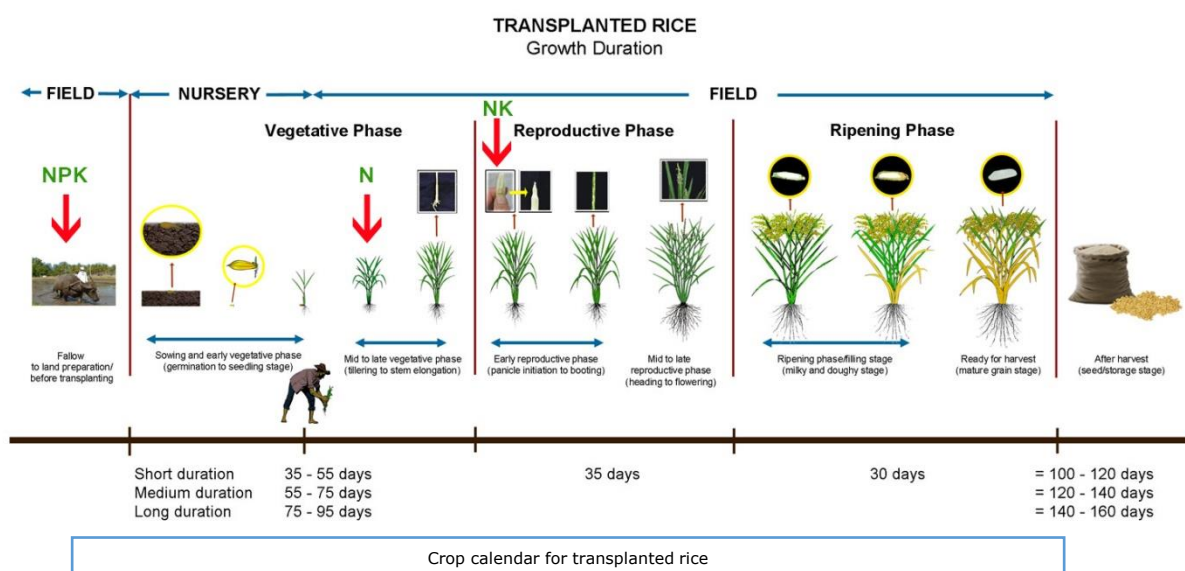
A cropping calendar is a picture of the rice growing season from the fallow period and land preparation, to crop establishment and maintenance through to harvest and storage.

The benefits of using a crop calendar are being able to:

- Plan for input purchase and use,
- Develop cash flow budget for the year,
- Determine credit need and period of requirement,
- Determine labor requirements and plan for peak usage times, and
- Organize contractors for land preparation and harvesting.

## Create a crop calendar

- Determine the best date to plant. This information can be gathered from local experience, agricultural advisors and leading farmers in the district.
- Determine the time the variety takes from planting to harvest. The length of time from establishment to harvest is known for each variety. It may vary a little depending on the growing conditions especially water availability and solar radiation. Normally short duration varieties take 100–120 days, medium duration 120–140 days, and long duration 140 days or more to reach maturity.
- Most varieties take 50–55 days from panicle initiation to harvest.
- Mark on the calendar the date of planting and then when each other operation needs to be done (ploughing, weeding, fertilizing, and harvesting).
- Then determine how much labor, equipment and finance will be required at each step during the growing period.
- Pin the calendar in a prominent place to remind you when things need to be done.



**Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART)**

The World Bank is the funding agency of APART. Department of Agriculture, Assam is the nodal department for implementation of APART. ARIAS Society is the State Level coordinating and monitoring agency for APART. Assam Agricultural University is the leading Agricultural University of the State and implementing agency of APART, imparting research and scientific support. International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) is the rice global leader providing technical and hand-holding support in the implementation of APART.