

## DIARA CULTIVATION OF CUCURBITS

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**Abstracts:** In recent years, the agriculture sector is adversely affected by climate change, and the rural poor are becoming more vulnerable to unsustainable livelihoods. River areas are known as “Diara”. Diara land cultivation continues to be carried out with the traditional manner. Riverbed cultivation is a type of vegetables forcing, facilitating off season production of mainly cucurbitaceous vegetables. Incomes generated by river bed vegetable growers were used primarily for meeting their household food security. On riverbed vegetable cultivation is easy with respect to land preparation, water management and other cultural practices. In north India, the cucurbits generally grown together are cucumber, bottle gourd, bitter melon, summer squash, round melon and long melon but ridge gourd in Rajasthan, MP and UP. The major constraints of diara farming are stray animals, strong windstorms and long spell of droughts. Diara farming is a pro-poor focused program for the rural community to increase household income and to improve the food security of landless and land poor households of India.

**Keywords:** Climate change, Cultivation, Cucurbits, Vegetable

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