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CULTURAL PRACTICES - JUNE 2026

Summary

Established blocks

- ❑ Take up handling, centering and de-suckering
- ❑ Take up supply planting in the necessary patches
- ❑ Renovate cradle pits & trenches
- ❑ Complete weeding prior to application of pre-monsoon fertilizer and on-set of rains
- ❑ Regulate temporary shade tree (Dadap)
- ❑ Complete pre-monsoon manuring, if not done during previous month
- ❑ Activation of monsoon rot pathogens and the incidence of leaf rust disease has been noticed due to excess irrigation
- ❑ Apply systemic fungicide viz., Hexaconazole 5 EC @ 2 ml/L or hexaconazole 75 WG @ 30g/200L or Tebuconazole 38.39% SC @ 200ml/200L) for leaf rust management
- ❑ Spray 1% Bordeaux mixture with proper coverage of both leaves and developing berries for the management of monsoon rot pathogens activated



Nursery

- ❑ Application/drenching of cow dung supernatant slurry for coffee seedlings in the polybag nursery (once in a month is advisable).
- ❑ Spray fungicide propiconazole 25 EC @ 0.8 ml/liter to the leaf spot and stem necrosis infected seedlings in the nursery.

New clearings

- ❑ Plant Dadap stakes and seedlings of shade trees.



AGRONOMICAL PRACTICES

In established plantations

- ❑ Take up handling, centering and de-suckering practices
- ❑ Carry out the weeding before the monsoon showers
- ❑ Take up supply planting, wherever necessary
- ❑ Complete renovation of cradle pits/trenches and clearing of drains

Handling

- ❑ Thinning operation has to be carried out after the main pruning, in one or two rounds in a year, depending upon the growth habit of the plants.
- ❑ The handling operation is suggested mainly to thin out the new flush to a desired level.
- ❑ At the time of handling, the criss-cross, inward growing branches (towards main stem) and semi erect growing (gormandizers) branches should be removed irrespective of their vigor.



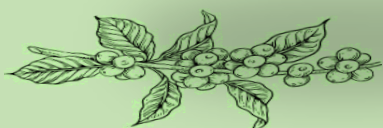
Handling operation

Centering

- ❑ At the time of handling, all the new flush arising within **10 to 15 cm radius** of the main stem should be removed.
- ❑ Avoid too much opening of centre of the bushes (> 30 cm) would expose the main stem which provides an ideal condition for which stem borer attack.
- ❑ Centering should be kept to the minimum extent possible, depending on the growth pattern of the varieties under cultivation in stem borer endemic areas.



Centering operation



Desuckering

- ❑ It should be done periodically by **removing all suckers** on the main stem from time.
- ❑ In case of Robusta, which is less prone to dieback associated with over branching, it is sufficient to remove the suckers and shot hole borer affected branches regularly throughout the year.



Supply planting

- ❑ Ideal Pit size: **45 x 45 x 45 cm** (L x B x H)
- ❑ Incorporate compost/FYM @ 2-3 kg + Rock Phosphate @ 20-30 g per pit

Coffee Planting

- ❑ Sixteen to eighteen months (root plants) old seedlings can be planted during June - July months in the planting pits opened earlier.



Ideal pit size (45cm³)



Drenching of cow dung slurry

For nursery

- ❑ Apply/drench cow dung supernatant slurry for coffee seedlings in the polybag nursery (once in a month is advisable)
- ❑ Remove shade net depending on weather conditions

For New clearings

- ❑ Plant Dadap stakes and seedlings of shade trees

Weeding

- ❑ If the growth of the weeds is seen, slash weeding is suggested and in new clearing may be cover crops like cowpea or horse gram or other leguminous crops can be sown.

In Both New & Established Estates

- ❑ Plants the different diversified multipurpose (Shade & Yield) trees sp. and in new clearings plant the tubers crops like Yam or Sweet Potato or other suitable sp. during the pre-bearing stage.

Shade regulation

- ❑ Suggested to lift the permanent shade up to 35 to 40 ft from the ground level



PRE-MONSOON NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT IN COFFEE

(First week of June - depending on the weather conditions)

Fertilizer for Young (Pre-bearing) Plants

Crop Type	Fertilizer Type	Dose per Plant	Application Time
Arabica	NPK (20:20:0:13 / 19:19:19 / 17:17:17)	50 - 75 g	Pre-monsoon (late May - early June)
Robusta	NPK (20:20:0:13 / 19:19:19 / 17:17:17)	100 - 125 g	Pre-monsoon (late May - early June)

- ✓

Planter Tips:
 - ✓ Use only one fertilizer combination
 - ✓ Follow soil test report (nutrient status)
 - ✓ Apply before rain begins
 - ✓ Apply correct dose per plant

- ✓ In recent times, coffee growers are facing difficulties due to shortage of straight fertilizers such as urea, single super phosphate (SSP), muriate of potash (MOP) and ammonium sulphate. This has affected timely fertilizer application in coffee plantations
- ✓ Under such situations, use of complex fertilizers can help supply essential nutrients to the crop, maintain soil health, improve coffee productivity and support sustainable coffee cultivation in the long run



Crop	Yield (cc/acre)	What to apply	Per plant	Spacing
Arabica	400 kg	☞ Soil pH above 5.1 (Apply ANYONE combination): ☐ Urea 65 kg + SSP 150 kg + MOP 50 kg ☐ 19:19:19 (125 kg) + Urea 13 kg + MOP 10 kg ☐ 17:17:17 (141 kg) + Urea 13 kg + MOP 10 kg ☐ 16:16:16 (150 kg) + Urea 13 kg + MOP 10 kg ☐ 15:15:15 (160 kg) + Urea 13 kg + MOP 10 kg ☐ Urea 45 kg + DAP 52 kg + MOP 50 kg ☐ Urea 45 kg + 10:26:26 (92 kg) + MOP 10 kg ☞ Soil pH below 5.0: ☐ Urea 65 kg + Rock Phosphate 133 kg + MOP 50 kg	120 - 150 g	5 x 5 ft
Robusta 1 st round manuring	500 kg	☞ Soil pH above 5.1 (Apply ANYONE combination): ☐ Urea 76 kg + SSP 172 kg + MOP 58 kg ☐ 19:19:19 (145 kg) + Urea 16 kg + MOP 13 kg ☐ 17:17:17 (162 kg) + Urea 16 kg + MOP 13 kg ☐ 16:16:16 (172 kg) + Urea 16 kg + MOP 13 kg ☐ 15:15:15 (183 kg) + Urea 16 kg + MOP 13 kg ☐ Urea 53 kg + DAP 60 kg + MOP 58 kg ☐ Urea 54 kg + 10:26:26 (106 kg) + MOP 15 kg ☞ Soil pH below 5.0: ☐ Urea 77 kg + Rock Phosphate 153 kg + MOP 59 kg	300 – 350 g	8 x 8 ft
Robusta 2 nd round manuring	700 kg	☞ Soil pH above 5.1 (Apply ANYONE combination): ☐ Urea 98 kg + SSP 216 kg + MOP 75 kg ☐ 19:19:19 (182 kg) + Urea 23 kg + MOP 18 kg ☐ 17:17:17 (203 kg) + Urea 23 kg + MOP 18 kg ☐ 16:16:16 (216 kg) + Urea 23 kg + MOP 18 kg ☐ 15:15:15 (230 kg) + Urea 23 kg + MOP 18 kg ☐ Urea 69 kg + DAP 75 kg + MOP 75 kg ☐ Urea 69 kg + 10:26:26 (133 kg) + MOP 32 kg ☞ Soil pH below 5.0: ☐ Urea 65 kg + Rock Phosphate 128 kg + MOP 50 kg	350 - 400 g	8 x 8 ft



CLONAL PROPAGATION IN ROBUSTA COFFEE

- ✓ Using stem cuttings prepared from orthotropic shoots of elite plant material, true to type plants can be produced
- ✓ Clonal propagation in Robusta coffee helps to produce pest and disease free superior performing rooted cuttings, which will help in generating uniformly high yielding plants for the Robusta plantations
- ✓ Early cutting of primaries and more number of primaries can be observed in clonally propagated robusta plants. Important steps in clonal propagation and their specific time schedule for successful propagation of clonal plants are detailed in the below table

Table. Important steps for raising clones and their ideal time period

Sl. No.	Steps for Clonal propagation	Specific time to perform
01.	Selection of elite mother plants	December to January is the optimum season
02.	Preparation of nursery mixture and bags	April to May- procurement of nursery materials, sieving, solarization and bag filling
03.	Collection of orthotropic shoots, Preparation of stem cuttings and Planting	May to July during monsoon
04.	Aftercare	August to September
05.	Hardening of cuttings	September to October

To initiate clonal propagation in Robusta, during the current month, collection of orthotropic shoots (vertical suckers), preparation of cuttings and planting operations should be taken up after ensuring that the nursery baskets are kept ready for planting.



A) Preparation of Stem Cuttings and Planting:

1. Collect suckers (vertically growing branches) / orthotropic shoots (suckers) of pencil thickness (semi-hard), sprouted after summer showers from identified mother plants without damaging the mother plant. Elite mother plants are marked earlier which are consistent in yield and free from pest and diseases (Figure - 1a).
2. Make single node cutting of about 10 cm length with a pair of leaves with a slant cut at base and horizontal cut at top. The leaves at the node should be cut to half of their size (Figure - 1b).



3. Immerse the cuttings in Bavistin solution containing 1g of Bavistin in 250 ml of water for 5 minutes to avoid any fungal contamination (Figure - 2a)
4. Dip the base of the cuttings in 5000 ppm **IBA** (Indole butyric acid) or with commercially available **Keradex** (Powder form) or **Rootex- F** (Solution form) for 30 to 40 seconds (Figure - 2b).
 - **Rootex - F**: dilute 5ml in 1 l of water
 - **Keradex**: Touch the slant cut basal part in the powder and plant





5. Plant the cuttings upright in nursery bags of 9" x 6" size (Figure - 3a). Tightly filled with soil mixture (Jungle soil, FYM, Sand in 5:3:2 ratio)
6. Place the bags in trenches of 6 x 1 x 0.5 m (L x B x D) size. About 500 bags can be accommodated in one trench
7. Maintain the humidity inside the trench by covering with polythene sheet (LDPE 500 gauge) fixed to bamboo/iron frame and making it airtight
8. Make proper drainage channels around the trenches to drain off rain water. Provide over head shade to the trenches (Figure - 3b)
9. Water the cuttings in trenches during morning hours once in a day or once in two to three days as needed
10. Monitor the cuttings periodically and remove the rotten cuttings if any



B) Hardening of rooted cuttings:

1. In about two months time, sprouting of shoots from nodal portion will be observed and three months for development of roots
2. The rooted cuttings with the newly sprouted shoots with 2-3 pairs of leaves, should be arranged under pendal shade for hardening
3. The hardened rooted cuttings with 3 to 4 pair of leaves is ready to be planted in field (Figure - 3c)

**SHADE MANAGEMENT**

- ❑ Wherever new coffee plantations were needs to establish, in that blocks if there was no sufficient number of shade planting (50 to 60% shade for Arabica & 40 to 50% shade for Robusta) both temporary shade tree stakes and permanent shade tree seedlings planting must be initiated or taken up.
- ❑ Take up Dadap lopping if not completed during the previous month and try to create better crop required microclimate with good air currents and light movements on the crop canopy for better berry development
- ❑ Remove all the new suckers emerged on the main stem and criss cross branches
- ❑ Clean the crop canopy if there are dry leaves fallen from shade tress which are accumulated and facilitate for better light entry on the top of crop canopy which will minimizes the incidence of diseases during the monsoon



PEST MANAGEMENT

Coffee berry borer management -

Retain Broca trap in the field till rain starts

Root grubs - If root grub larvae are noticed in the soil in new clearings, collect and destroy them immediately



Root Grub larvae



Broca trap

Beekeeping

- ❑ Provide artificial feed (sugar in water; 1:1 proportion) during rainy season to maintain strong colony
- ❑ Clean bottom boards of the boxes to remove debris and wax moth life stages using hive tools and brush (once in ten days)

DISEASE MANAGEMENT

All the coffee growing regions have received summer rainfall, and most of the robusta plantations were also subjected to excess irrigation. These conditions have favored the activation of monsoon rot pathogens and the incidence of leaf rust disease. Hence, the following measures may be adopted to manage these diseases effectively.

1. Coffee Leaf Rust (*Hemileia vastatrix*)

- ✓ Apply of any effective systemic fungicide viz., Hexaconazole 5 EC @ 2 ml/L or hexaconazole 75 WG @ 30 g/200 L or tebuconazole 38.39% SC @ 200 ml/200 L of water is advisable. Ensure thorough coverage, especially on the lower surface of the leaves



Coffee Leaf Rust



2. Monsoon Rot Diseases (Black Rot, Stalk Rot)



Black rot disease



Stalk rot symptoms reported before monsoon

Cultural management:

- ✓ Remove dried shade tree leaves from the canopy before spraying
- ✓ Ensure proper drainage around the root zone to prevent water stagnation

Chemical Management:

- ✓ In some of the plantations where irrigation was provided the monsoon rot pathogens activated. Therefore, spraying of 1% Bordeaux mixture with proper coverage of both leaves and developing berries

(OR)

- ✓ Spray tebuconazole 38.39% SC @ 200 ml/200 L with full coverage on both leaf surfaces and developing berries before the onset of monsoon.

Note: In plantations where both leaf rust and monsoon rot diseases are noticed in the previous years it is recommended to spray tebuconazole 38.39% SC @ 200 ml/200 L during the break in monsoon to effectively manage both the diseases.

Nursery Disease management

- ✓ In coffee nurseries, during rainy season, *Myrothecium* leaf spot and stem necrosis is generally noticed. This disease can be avoided completely by raising rainout shelters
- ✓ In case, if the disease is observed, spray fungicide propiconazole 25 EC @ 0.8 ml/liter.



Myrothecium Leaf spot

Coffee Trunk Canker Management

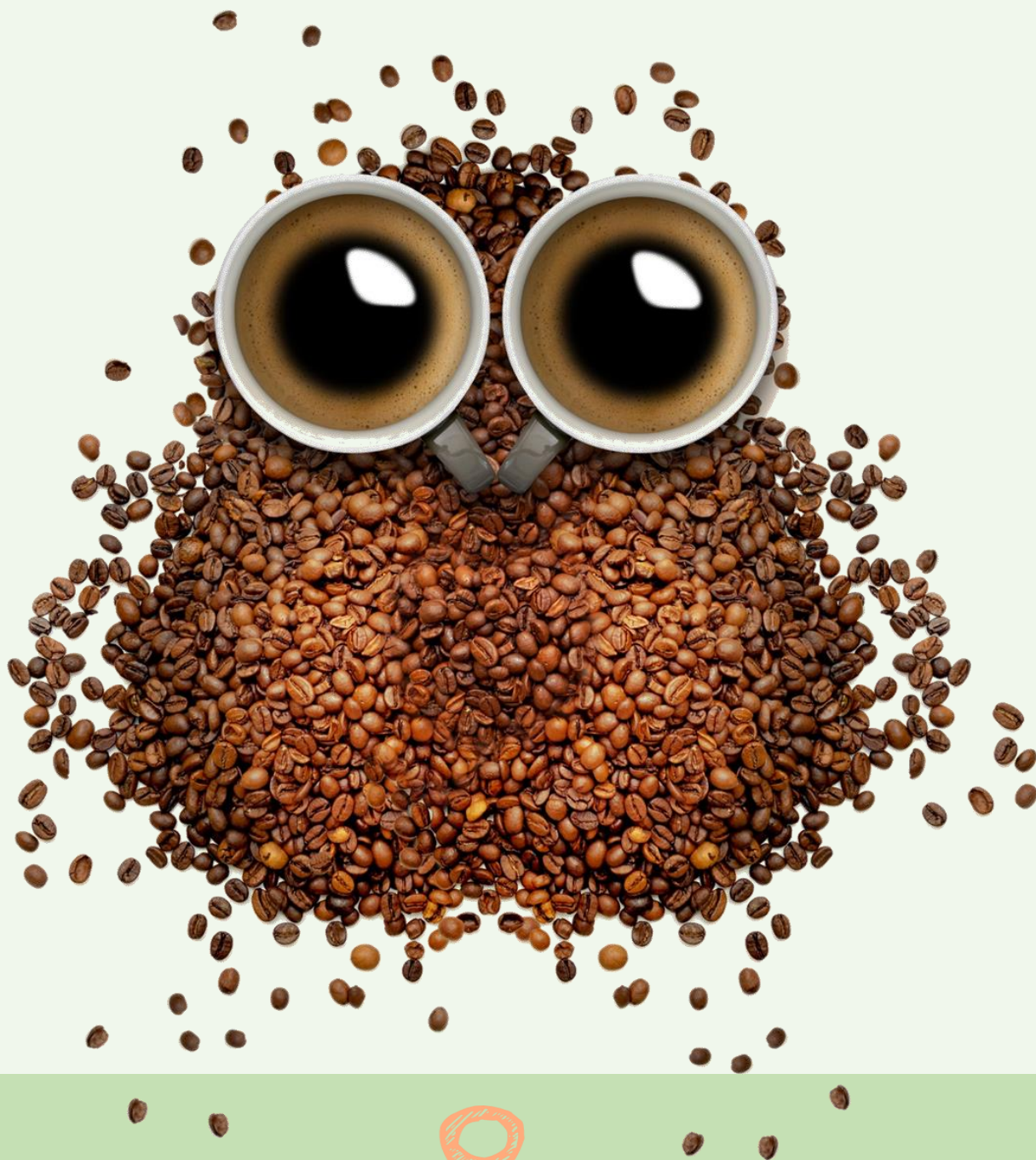
- ✓ If the severely affected bushes are observed in the plantation uproot and destroy the bushes to prevent the further spread of the disease



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