

NEW VARIETIES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE

One Hybrid in maize and two varieties, one each in finger millet and grain amaranth have been released for the farming community and other stakeholders of Zone-5 during 2025-26.

Finger Millet Variety GPU 101: It is a medium-duration variety with a medium plant height of about 108 cm and exhibits resistance to lodging. The crop matures in 110–115 days. It has semi-compact ears with tip-incurved fingers and shows resistance to both finger and neck blast diseases. The variety is suitable for sowing during the *kharif* season and is superior in performance, producing a grain yield of 37-40 q /ha along with a fodder yield of about 6.5 t /ha. Ragi flour and ball (mudde) quality is very good.

Maize hybrid MAH-20-45: This hybrid recorded an average grain yield of 110.6 q/ha, which is 14.6 percent higher than the check hybrid MAH-14-5 (96.6 q/ha). The hybrid is suitable for cultivation during the kharif season and possesses resistance to Turcicum leaf blight disease and moderate resistance to SDM disease. Hybrid has strong and sturdy stems along with broad and thick leaves. Due to its high biomass production, it is highly suitable for dual-purpose utilization for both grain and fodder.

Grain Amaranth variety KBGA-18: A high grain yielding, medium duration 95-100days. Grain Amaranth variety suitable for early and late kharif seasons, with a grain yield of 22-24q/ha. It has erect plant growth habit with stiff stem enables lodging resistance. This variety has yellowish green stem and green inflorescence. It is resistance to leaf rust, leaf spot and major pests.