



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



PALASH
(FLAME OF THE FOREST)



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1. Fertilizer Cycle (Stage-wise)

1 Seed Sowing / Sapling Stage (June–August)

Soil Type: Well-drained sandy or loamy soil, slightly acidic to neutral (pH 6–7.5).

Propagation: By seeds (soaked overnight before sowing) or young saplings.

Planting: Sow seeds or plant saplings at 2–3 ft depth, spacing 10–15 ft apart.

Add organic compost or farmyard manure (FYM – 2–3 kg per pit) before planting.

Water regularly until the sapling establishes (first 2–3 months).

2 Vegetative Growth Stage (1–2 years)

Apply organic manure (2–3 kg per plant) every 3–4 months to support root and canopy growth.

Once every 2 months, use a balanced fertilizer (NPK 19:19:19 at 5 g/litre water) for young plants.

Maintain consistent watering during dry months; avoid waterlogging.

3 Maturing & Flowering Stage (3–4 years onward)

When the tree matures, switch to low-nitrogen, high-phosphorus fertilizer:

→ NPK 10:26:26 or bone meal 100 g/tree, twice a year (July & December).

After flowering, apply organic mulch (dry leaves, compost) around the base to retain moisture.

Palash trees generally bloom from February to April.

4 Post-Flowering / Maintenance Stage

Minimal fertilization needed once mature.

Add compost (2–3 kg) before the monsoon each year.

Prune dead or weak branches after flowering season.



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2. Caring Tips

- ✓ Sunlight: Full sun (6–8 hours/day).
- ✓ Soil: Well-drained, sandy or loamy; tolerates poor soil.
- ✓ Watering: Moderate; deep watering twice a week during dry season for young trees.
- ✓ Temperature: Thrives in 20°C–40°C; drought-tolerant once mature.
- ✓ Lifespan: Very long (up to 100 years).
- ✓ Propagation: By seeds or stem cuttings.
- ✓ Pests/Diseases: Resistant; occasionally affected by root rot in stagnant water.

3. Pro Hacks

- 🌱 Seed Soak Hack: Soak seeds in warm water overnight → improves germination.
- 🌱 Mulching Tip: Add dry leaves or organic mulch → conserves moisture and improves soil fertility.
- 🌱 Pruning Trick: Annual pruning after flowering → promotes healthy canopy growth.
- 🌱 Watering Hack: Deep watering for young plants → encourages strong taproot development.
- 🌱 Cultural Tip: Flowers are used to make natural Holi colors and have Ayurvedic medicinal properties.

4. Blooming Pattern in India 🌻

Sowing/Planting Time: June–August (monsoon)

Flowering Season: February–April (spring)

Colors: Orange, red, deep flame

Height: 30–40 feet

Type: Deciduous tree

Lifespan: 80–100 years

Common Uses: Shade tree, ornamental, dye, medicinal, cultural rituals.

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