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Low tunnel technology a valuable vegetable forcing intervention for boosting economy of farmers in Ladakh

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ABSTRACT: Result of a comparative evaluation of low tunnel technology and traditional growing of cabbage under three different locations in Kargil district is presented here. Low tunnel technology increased seed germination from 75.3% to 91% and seedling survival on transplanting from 76.3% to 96.6%. Time taken for production of marketable seedling as well as attaining marketable cabbage heads reduced from 53 to 45.6 days and 85.3 to 75.3 days, respectively. Use of this technology advanced the growing period of crop by almost two months. The total cabbage yield and net profit per unit area were above normal when grown under low tunnels as the produce reached the market early avoiding the market glut.

KEY WORDS: Low tunnel, Cold arid, Cabbage, Season advance, Vegetable forcing

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