

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR

INTRODUCTION

Muktsar is predominately an agriculture oriented district and majority of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihood. The soils of the district are suitable for growing different types of food crops, pulses, oil seeds, and horticulture crops. There is ample scope for increasing the production and productivity of food crops and horticulture crops by adopting new technology and package of new practices in order to bring change in the farming system and to increase farmers income, the department is implementing several agriculture development schemes.

Major crops and varieties in the district.

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Varieties</u>
Cotton	RCH-134, RCH-317, ANKUR-2226, OM-3, M-6304, M-6301.
Paddy	PR-106, PR-111, PR-116. PR-118, PUSA-44 and Basmati.
Wheat	PBW-343, PBW-502, PBW-550, DBW-17
Oil Seeds (Sarson)	RLM-619, PBR-91, H-401,

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The District Agriculture Office is located at district head quarter Muktsar, near Bathinda bye-pass and is headed by Chief Agriculture Officer. He is assisted by 3 Agriculture officers, 8 Agriculture Development Officers and 8 Agriculture Sub Inspectors. There are 4 Agriculture blocks i.e. Muktsar, Malout, Gidderbaha & Lambi. Block Gidderbaha is adjusted in the Soil Testing building. Each block is headed by one Agriculture Officer and he is assisted by Agriculture Development Officers & Agriculture Sub Inspectors. The department of the Agriculture carries forward the various Government Schemes i.e. extension and researchable issues.

1. Provides technical guidance to the farmers by conducting field demonstrations, adaptive trails and organizing training camps at district, block and village level.
2. Responsible for streamlining the supply of quality inputs to the farmers and maintaining coordination with various input supply agencies to ensure timely flow of inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, seeds, etc.
3. The mini kits of new varieties of various crops are given to the farmers free of cost or at nominal charges.
4. Provides relevant feed back to research scientists to solve the problems of farmers.
5. The crop cutting experiments are conducted in both the seasons i.e., Kharif and Rabi to get an estimate of productivity.