

Practice	Traditional decision	Agrometeorological services	Main advantages
Land preparation	Soil moisture, empirical knowledge, indigenous indicators	Advice based on seasonal forecasts and crop calendar	Reduces weeds cover before sowing
Crop variety choice	Locally available varieties, good taste and marketable	Advice based on seasonal forecasts and crop calendar	Crop cycle better fits seasonal pattern (season length, dry spells)
Sowing	First rain, indigenous indicators	Rainfall on the rain gauge according to specific thresholds and in relation to the sowing calendar and weather/seasonal forecasts.	Avoids sowing failures, re-sowing, coincidence of most vulnerable crop stages with dry spells
Weeding	Abundance of weeds	Phenological phase, soil moisture and weather forecasts.	Reduces weeds growth