

CUCUMBERS PRODUCTION GUIDELINES FOR 1 HECTARE

Optimum growth temperatures: 25 - 30 degrees celsius and night temperature not lower than 18 degrees celsius.

Cucumbers are mostly planted in October - November, but they can be planted all year round in frost free areas since they are frost prone

Seeds can be directly sown but are usually germinated in seedling trays and then transplanted, gentle care must be taken when transplanting as the roots are very sensitive

Cucumbers are deep rooted crops which grow best in well drained fertile soils, the soil should be at least 1.2m deep & sandy loam soil is preferable to light sand or clay

Seeding rate is about 5kgs per hectare and the estimated yield target is about 12 - 15 tons per hectare

Generally, under good light conditions 2.2 - 2.5 plants per square metre should be sufficient, this should ensure good air circulation and adequate light for fruit production

Cucumbers are trellised on a string or wire system. Various trellising methods are used by different growers.

FERTILIZER REQUIREMENTS		PRODUCT	RATE/HA	
Basal dressing: Compound C		5:15:12 AN	800kgs	Generally recommended to apply all at or before transplanting your crop Split apply, top dress at first fruit set
Top dressing: Split apply Ammonium nitrate		34.5% N	150kgs	
HERBICIDES, FUNGICIDES, INSECTICIDES				
Problem	Product	Application rate	Application / comments	Product for 1 ha
Grasses only	Gallant Super	0.6 - 2.4 litres per hectare	Apply as a post emergent herbicide against grasses only	0.6 - 2.4l
	Agil/Propaquizafop	2 litres per hectare	Apply as a post emergent herbicide against grasses only	0.5 - 2l
Cutworms	Fenvelerate	200mls per hectare	Apply as a band spray soon after germination/transplanting	0.2l
	Lambda cyhalothrin	200mls per hectare	Apply as a band spray soon after germination/transplanting	0.2l
Aphids	Malathion 25WP	500grms per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat if necessary to do so	0.5kgs
	Malathion 50EC	300mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat if necessary to do so	0.3l
Nematodes	Nemat/Oxamyl	3litres per hectare	Spray into furrows before planting, cup treatment into planting holes	3l
Leaf eaters	Carbaryl 85WP	400grms per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S when pest is first seen and repeat as necessary	0.4kgs
Red Spider Mites	Dicofol	440mls per hectare	Apply 220mls in 100 litres of water as a F.C.S Repeat as necessary	0.44l
Anthracnose Downy Mildew	Dithane M45	1.5kgs per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat after every 7 - 14 days as necessary	1.5kgs
	Metalaxyl + Mancozeb	1kgs per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat after every 10 days as necessary	1kgs
	Chloroflo/Chlorothalonil/Bravo	2 litres per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat after every 7 - 14 days as necessary	2l
Powdery Mildew	Agricura Special Fungicide	350grams per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat after every 7 - 14 days as necessary	0.35kg
Seed Borne Diseases	Thiram 80WP	Seed dresser	Mix gently with your seed at the rate of 10grams per 4 -5kgs	10grams
Fruit Fly/Pumpkin Fly	GF 120 Fruit Fly Bait	500mls/14.5 - 15.5l of water	Apply as coarse droplets at weekly intervals. Consult Agronomist	1 - 1.2l
	Kontakill/Fenitrothion	350mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S repeat as necessary. Consult Agronomist	0.35l
	Malathion 25WP	800grams/Ha, apply as a bait	Mix with 4kgs of sugar in 100 l of water apply as a coarse spray	0.8kgs
	Malathion 50EC	400mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S repeat as necessary. Consult Agronomist	0.4l

Approximately 12.5 x 16 litre knapsacks will cover 1 hectare and apply 200 litres of water

ALWAYS READ PRODUCT LABELS BEFORE USE

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