

WATERMELONS PRODUCTION GUIDELINES FOR 1 HECTARE

Optimum Temperatures: 18-20°C at night, 24-30°C during the day, and 15-25°C for ripening.

Planting: Mostly in spring and summer, recommended between July and August.

Raised Beds: 10cm high, 2m apart, with paths at least 0.6m wide.

Soil Preparation: Thorough and deep cultivation for a good root system. Germinate seeds in a controlled environment if possible before transplanting.

Plant Population: Up to 4,000 plants per hectare.

Seed: 2.5-4.5 kg per hectare, depending on variety and spacing.

Yield Target: 25-30 tons per hectare.

Nutrients: Potash is crucial for flowering, fruiting, and fruit quality. Use supplements to ensure adequate potash. Avoid excessive phosphorus to prevent fruit splitting.

Maturity Time: 11-17 weeks, depending on the variety.

FERTILIZER REQUIREMENTS		PRODUCT	RATE/HA	
Basal dressing:	Compound C	5:15:12	300kgs	Generally recommended to apply all at or before transplanting your crop
	Muriate of Potash	MOP	200kgs	Generally recommended to apply all at planting or split apply as side dressings
Top dressing:	Split apply Ammonium nitrate	AN 34.5% N	200kgs	Split apply at 3 & at 5-6 WAP/Transplanting your crop as required/If required
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/Propaquizaforp	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	Dimethoate 40EC	250mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S usually not very problematic pest	0.25l
	Malathion 25WP	300grms per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat if necessary to do so	0.3kgs
	Malathion 50EC	200mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat if necessary to do so	0.2l
Anthracnose Downy Mildew	Dithane M45	1.5 - 2kgs per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat after every 7 - 14 days as necessary	1.5 - 2kgs
	Copper Oxychloride 85WP	1kgs per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat after every 7 - 14 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	500 - 750grams per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S and repeat after every 7 - 14 days as necessary	0.5 - 0.75kg
Seed Borne Diseases	Thiram 80WP	Seed dresser	Mix gently with your seed at the rate of 10grams per 4 -5kgs	10grams
Fruit Fly	GF 120 Fruit Fly Bait	500mls/14.5 - 15.5l of water	Apply as coarse droplets at weekly intervals. Consul Agronomist	1 - 1.2l
	Kontakill/Fenitrothion	300mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S repeat as necessary. Consul Agronomist	0.3l
	Malathion 25WP	300grams/Ha, apply as a bait	Mix with 4kgs of sugar in 100 ls of water apply as a coarse spray	0.5 - 0.6kgs
	Malathion 50EC	300mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S repeat as necessary. Consul Agronomist	0.3l

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

ALWAYS READ PRODUCT LABELS BEFORE USE

Website: www.reliantag.co.zw, Email: info@reliantag.co.zw

Prepared by Macdonald Makombe Call/App 0779405797