



## CAPSICUM

*Capsicum annuum var. annuum*

**Origin:** Central and South America

**Edible Portion:** Fruit

### SOWING AND PLANTING

**Climatic Requirements:** Frost free sunny paddocks in areas of low humidity. Deformed fruit and a poor fruit set may occur when the night temperature falls below 15.5°C or the day time maximum exceeds 32.0°C.

**Preferred Soil Type:** Well drained, well structured, deep loams.

**Seed Required:** Transplanted – 400-450g/ha. Direct-seeded – 2.5-4.5kg/ha.

**Optimum Soil Temperature Range for Germination:** 18.0-35.0°C

**Emergence Time:** 8-25 days, optimum 8 days

**Plant Spacing:** Flat planting – In-row 40.0-50.0cm, between rows 90.0-110.0cm. Bed planting – Bed height 15.0-20.0cm, in-row 30.0-40.0cm, between rows 35.0-40.0, between beds 1.5-1.8m

**Plants per Hectare:** Flat planting – Approx. 10,000. Bed planting – Approx. 15,500.

**Method of Propagation:** Plants are raised under glass in either containers or cells and transplanted out into the field when large enough to handle.

**Sowing Dates:** August to September under glass

**Planting Out Dates:** Late October to early November. In frost free areas planting can take place during September

**Other Sowing and Planting Information:** For best production capsicum should be planted into soil that has been well prepared several weeks before the transplanting is planned.

### FERTILISER

**Suitable Soil Nutrient Conditions:** Soils known to have high residual nitrogen levels should be avoided to prevent the production of excessive foliage on the plants at the expense of fruit production. The previous year's nitrogen soil history should be considered when determining the amount of nitrogen fertiliser to be applied to the crop.

**Optimum Soil Test Levels:** N = 100-150, P = 50-80, K = 20-30, Mg = 20-30, Ca = 8-15, Na = 1-10.

**Base Dressing (kg/ha):** Soils with a good nitrogen carry-over – N = 0.0, P = 56.0, K = 67.0. Soils with low nitrogen carry over – N = 40.0, P = 56.0, K = 67.0. Base dressings should be applied prior to transplanting and well worked into the soil.

**Side Dressing (kg/ha):** On all soils – N = 60.0. This should be applied in split applications banded down the row, the first when the initial fruit are beginning to set and the second some two to three weeks later.

**Optimum pH Range:** 5.5-6.8

**Lime Requirement:** As required for the correction of pH levels

### PESTS AND DISEASES

#### **Important Pests and Their Control:**

Aphids – demeton-S-methyl, diazinon, dimethoate, maldison, pirimicarb.

Mites – dicofol, endosulfan.

Thrips – cyfluthrin, demeton-S-methyl, diazinon.

Tomato fruitworm – bacillus thuringiensis, cyfluthrin, cypermethrin.

Whitefly – buprofezin



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## Capsicum Program

**Biology Kick start;** Apply 10 lt /ha Vital Activator

**Ground preparation:**

Apply 1 tonne/ha Lime **or** Safe Organic Liquid Lime @ 40lt/ha in 300lt/water  
Apply 400kg/ha Alroc DAP Supablend

**Pre Plant**

Apply 60 Kg/Ha Safe Coated Urea (optional this can be fitted in as required)  
Apply 200 Kg/Ha Alroc 15.3.8 Supablend  
Apply 10lt /ha Vital Activator (This is to lift the carbon level in soil, the energy)

**Top up Fertiliser requirements:**

**Weekly topup;**

Vital Mix @ 5lt/ha mixed into 200lt water/ha

**Nitrogen:**

Apply 60 Kg/Ha Safe Coated Urea

**Multi Nutrients:**

8Lt/Ha Vital K Blast to finish the crop off ( only if required )

The above mentioned application rates can be adjusted to what is economical. These adjustments may not provide the ideal nutrient ratios but should replace some of the nutrients that are removed by the crop.

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**Disclaimer**

The above program will be affected by soil variation, testing errors, seasonal factors and management skills. Any recommendation should be acted upon as part of an ongoing fertiliser program. No responsibility can be accepted for any of the above matters or other matters that are beyond our control.

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