



Safe Fertilisers – Crop Info



EGG PLANT

Solanum melongena var. esculentum

Origin: Tropics of India, China and the Middle East

Edible Portion: Fruit

SOWING AND PLANTING

Climatic Requirements: Egg plant requires warm soil and warm temperatures to yield well. All varieties are frost tender.

Preferred Soil Type: Well structured deep alluvial or volcanic loam.

Seed Required: 250-300kg/ha.

Optimum Soil Temperature Range for Germination: 24.0-32.0°C.

Emergence Time: 5-13 days, optimum 8 days.

Plant Spacing: In-row 45.0-60.0cm. Between rows 90.0-150.0cm.

Plants per Hectare: 15,800-24,500.

Method of Propagation: Plants are raised under glass and transplanted out into the field after the danger of frost has passed.

Sowing Dates: August to September.

Planting Out Dates: Late October to early November. In frost free areas they can be transplanted during September.

Other Sowing and Planting Information: The crop responds well to the use of black plastic mulch with higher yields and earliness.

FERTILISER

Optimum Soil Test Levels: N = 100-150, P = 33-35, K = 15-25, Mg = 20-30, Ca = 10-15, Na = 1-10.

Base Dressing (kg/ha): N = 0.0, P = 55.0, K = 70.0. The base dressing is normally applied prior to transplanting and well worked into the soil.

Side Dressing (kg/ha): N = 45.0. Excess early nitrogen results in large plants, delayed maturity and stem breakage. The side dressing is usually split into two applications banded down the row, the first being applied when the first fruit appear.

Starter Fertiliser: A water soluble starter fertiliser will assist young plants through the transplanting shock.

Optimum pH Range: 6.0-6.8. Satisfactory crops can be produced over a pH range of 5.5-6.8.

Lime Requirement: Only required for pH correction.

PESTS AND DISEASES

Important Pests and Their Control:

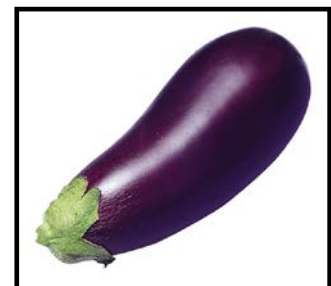
Aphids – demeton-S-methyl, maldison, methomyl.

Mites – endosulfan

Whitefly – buprofezin

Important Diseases and Their Control:

Sclerotinia rot – benomyl, carbendazim, thiophanate-methyl



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Egg Plant 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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