

# EGGPLANTS

## Cultural Information

### General

<b>Climate Requirement:</b> Ideal conditions is a warm temperate climate with warm to hot days ( 25 -32 c) and mild nights (17-20 c) temperatures outside of these ranges will reduce yield potential. Rain at or approaching maturity will degrade fruit quality.	
<b>Frost Sensitivity:</b> Sensitive to low temperatures and frosts	
<b>Seed Requirement Direct Plant (kg/ha):</b>	<b>Seed Planting Depth (cm):</b> 1.0
<b>Seed Requirement Transplant (g/ha):</b> 200	<b>Seeds per gram (approx):</b> 200-250
<b>Plant Population:</b> 4800-13000 /ha dependant on type	
<b>Row spacing:</b> 1.5-2 Metres	<b>Plant Spacing:</b> 0. 5-0.8 Metre
<b>Potential Disease Problems:</b> A wide range of diseases effect eggplants, with various fungal (including Fusarium) root rots the major problem.	

### Germination Information

<b>Germination Temperature:</b> Range 15-35 C Optimum 23-28 C	
<b>Days to Emergence:</b> 5-7 days	<b>Emergence to Transplant:</b> 24-42 days
<b>Plant to Maturity:</b> Depending on variety and area, 65 to 120 days	
<b>Transplant Recommendation:</b> Transplanting of cell grown transplants is strongly recommended.	

### Soil and Nutrition

<b>Salinity Sensitivity:</b> Medium tolerance	<b>Optimum pH:</b> 5.5-6.8
<b>Nutrient Removal (kg/ha) (At average yield, greater if yield is higher)</b>	
<b>Vegetative:</b> N 80 Kg, P 30 Kg, K 100 Kg, Ca 90 Kg, Mg 22 Kg. per Ha	
<b>Harvested Product:</b> N 60 Kg, P 25 Kg, K 86 Kg.	
<b>Total Nutrient Removal</b>	
N 140 Kg , P 55 Kg, K 170 Kg, Ca 100 Kg, Mg 25 Kg. per Ha	
<b>Fertiliser Application:</b> A basal dressing of all P and 60-70 % of the other element totals. The balance should be applied in regular applications in line with fruit production.	

### Irrigation Requirement

<b>Irrigation System:</b> Trickle irrigation with plastic mulch or flood irrigation is the preferred systems.
<b>Water Usage (average):</b> 3.8-5.5 MI per Ha depending on system.

### Yield Potential

<b>Average Yield:</b> 6500-8000 cartons per Ha
<b>Packing:</b> Eggfruit is usually packed in cartons of size graded fruit in cartons of 9 - 11kg, or tray packed "gourmet" style fruit to 6 kg.

This information is subject to the following disclaimer.