

MELONS, HONEYDEW

Cultural Information

General

Climate Requirement: Honeydews require a warm dry stable climate without extremes of heat or cold, temperatures of 26 -30 days and 17-20 nights will produce the best results cold night <10 or very hot days >35 will result in reduced yield as will excessive rainfall.	
Frost Sensitivity: Very sensitive to cold and or frosty conditions.	
Seed Requirement Direct Plant (kg/ha): 1.0-1.5	Seed Planting Depth (cm): 3.0
Seed Requirement Transplant (g/ha):	Seeds per gram (approx): 30-35
Plant Population: 13500-24000 per Ha	
Row spacing: Single or double row on 1.5-1.8 m centres	Plant Spacing: 30-50 mm
Potential Disease Problems: Downy and Powdery mildew are the major disease problems, however other diseases may include various virus' and fungal disorders.	

Germination Information

Germination Temperature: Range 15-35 C, Optimum 22-28 C	
Days to Emergence: 5-7 days	Emergence to Transplant: 6-14 days, before 3 rd true leaf
Plant to Maturity: Dependent on variety season and area 80-110 days	
Transplant Recommendation: If the crop is to be transplanted it must be done prior to 3rd true leaf and before the seedling is in any way stressed.	

Soil and Nutrition

Salinity Sensitivity: Moderately tolerant	Optimum pH: 5.5-6.8
Nutrient Removal (kg/ha) (At average yield, greater if yield is higher)	
Vegetative: N 20 Kg, P 4 Kg, K 28 Kg, Ca 11Kg,Mg 9 Kg. per Ha	
Harvested Product: N 30 Kg, P 12 Kg, K 40 Kg, Ca 52 Kg, Mg 7 Kg. per Ha	
Total Nutrient Removal	
N 50 Kg, P 16 Kg, K 68 Kg, Ca 63 Kg, Mg 16 Kg. per Ha	
Fertiliser Application: Approx 40 % of total including all P as a basal application the balance should be regularly fed as a liquid injection with irrigation.	

Irrigation Requirement

Irrigation System: Trickle is the preferred irrigation option. Flood or overhead is possible but disease risk increases.
Water Usage (average): 2.8-3.5 Ml per Ha (trickle)

Yield Potential

Average Yield: 1200 cases per Ha
Packing: Honeydew melons are usually packed into single layer "tray" pack cartons of 5-11 fruit or multi-layer cartons of 10-22 fruit.

This information is subject to the following disclaimer.