

ZUCCHINIS

Cultural Information

General

Climate Requirement: Although they will tolerate very hot conditions Zucchini's prefer warm conditions with 28-34 degree days and 18-25 degree nights. Frosts and cold (<10 C) will cause severe yield reduction or total losses. Soil temperatures should be over 18 C	
Frost Sensitivity: Very sensitive to cold and or frosty conditions.	
Seed Requirement Direct Plant (kg/ha): 2.5	Seed Planting Depth (cm): 3.0
Seed Requirement Transplant (g/ha):	Seeds per gram (approx): 5-10
Plant Population: 6600-11000 per Ha	
Row spacing: 1.5-1.8 metres	Plant Spacing: 0.5-1 Metre
Potential Disease Problems: Powdery Mildew and mosaic viruses are the most serious diseases of Zucchini's	

Germination Information

Germination Temperature: Range 15-35 C Optimum 23-28 C	
Days to Emergence: 3-7 days	Emergence to Transplant: 8-14 days
Plant to Maturity: 38-48 days	
Transplant Recommendation: Extreme care required to prevent transplant shock, maximum 3rd true leaf.	

Soil and Nutrition

Salinity Sensitivity: medium salt tolerance	Optimum pH: 5.5-6.8
Nutrient Removal (kg/ha) (At average yield, greater if yield is higher)	
Vegetative: N 60 Kg, P 12 Kg, K 60 Kg, Ca 95 Kg, Mg 22 Kg. per Ha	
Harvested Product: N 40 Kg, P 10 Kg, K 35 Kg.	
Total Nutrient Removal	
N 90 Kg , P 22 Kg, K 95 Kg, Ca 120 Kg, Mg 25 Kg. per Ha	
Fertiliser Application: Approximately 50 % of totals and 90 % of P should be as a basal dressing balance in regular timed applications once harvest has commenced to maintain active growth and fruit set	

Irrigation Requirement

Irrigation System: Flood or trickle irrigation is preferred, over head systems can increase incidence of fungal disease
Water Usage (average): 2.9-3.5 MI per Ha

Yield Potential

Average Yield: 1200-1400 cases per Ha
Packing: Zucchini's are usually packed in 1/2 or 1/4 bushel cartons 4-7 kg. Average harvested fruit size will dramatically influence overall yield.

This information is subject to the following disclaimer.