

LETTUCES, HEADING TYPES

Cultural Information

General

Climate Requirement: Different varieties of lettuce tolerate and require quite different climatic conditions, most growing areas have varieties which allow year round production. Peak of summer and late winter are considered the most difficult time slots.	
Frost Sensitivity: Dependent on variety some are hardier than others to the effects of frost.	
Seed Requirement Direct Plant (kg/ha): 2	Seed Planting Depth (cm): 1.5
Seed Requirement Transplant (g/ha): 1000	Seeds per gram (approx): 800-1000
Plant Population: 25000-50000 per Ha usually about 32000	
Row spacing: 2-4 rows per 1.5-2 m beds	Plant Spacing: 30-40 cm
Potential Disease Problems: A range of diseases including Downy Mildew, Bacterial leaf spot, Big vein, TWSV, LNYV, CMV, Corky root, Anthracnose, Septoria can all be problems in field grown crops.	

Germination Information

Germination Temperature: Range 8-26 C, Optimum 15-19 C	
Days to Emergence: 5-7 days	Emergence to Transplant: 22-35 days
Plant to Maturity: Dependent on season and variety 48-80 days	
Transplant Recommendation: Transplanting of cell grown plants is commonly practised, however direct seeding is also possible with pelleted or raw seed.	

Soil and Nutrition

Salinity Sensitivity: Slight tolerance	Optimum pH: 6.0-7
Nutrient Removal (kg/ha) (At average yield, greater if yield is higher)	
Vegetative:	
Harvested Product: N 120 Kg, P 30 Kg, K 120 Kg, Ca 50Kg,Mg 15Kg. per Ha	
Total Nutrient Removal	
N 120 Kg, P 30 Kg, K 120 Kg, Ca 50Kg,Mg 15Kg. per Ha	
Fertiliser Application: 50 % of nutrient input including <40% of N should be applied as a pre-plant banded application. The balance as one or two side dresses in the last 1/2 of the crop cycle.	

Irrigation Requirement

Irrigation System: Sprinkler irrigation is preferred, however flood irrigation or trickle is sometimes used
Water Usage (average): 2.4-3.4 MI per ha

Yield Potential

Average Yield: 75-85 % of heads harvested
Packing: Head lettuces are usually packed in cartons of 10-15 usually 12 heads including wrapper leaves in 48-64 litre cartons.

This information is subject to the following disclaimer.