

# ROCKMELONS

## Cultural Information

### General

<b>Climate Requirement:</b> Rockmelon 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.	
<b>Frost Sensitivity:</b> Very sensitive to cold and or frosty conditions.	
<b>Seed Requirement Direct Plant (kg/ha):</b> 1.0-1.5	<b>Seed Planting Depth (cm):</b> 3.0
<b>Seed Requirement Transplant (g/ha):</b>	<b>Seeds per gram (approx):</b> 30-35
<b>Plant Population:</b> 13500-24000 per Ha	
<b>Row spacing:</b> Single or double row on 1.5-1.8 m centres	<b>Plant Spacing:</b> 30-50 mm
<b>Potential Disease Problems:</b> Downy and Powdery mildew are the major disease problems, however other diseases may include various virus' and fungal disorders.	

### Germination Information

<b>Germination Temperature:</b> Range 15-35 C, Optimum 22-28 C	
<b>Days to Emergence:</b> 5-7 days	<b>Emergence to Transplant:</b> 6-14 days, before 3rd true leaf
<b>Plant to Maturity:</b> Dependant on variety season and area 80-110 days	
<b>Transplant Recommendation:</b> 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, or root bound.	

### Soil and Nutrition

<b>Salinity Sensitivity:</b> Moderately tolerant	<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 20 Kg, P 4 Kg, K 28 Kg, Ca 11Kg,Mg 9 Kg. per Ha	
<b>Harvested Product:</b> N 30 Kg, P 12 Kg, K 40 Kg, Ca 52 Kg, Mg 7 Kg. per Ha	
<b>Total Nutrient Removal</b>	
N 50 Kg, P 16 Kg, K 68 Kg, Ca 63 Kg, Mg 16 Kg. per Ha	
<b>Fertiliser Application:</b> 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

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

### Yield Potential

<b>Average Yield:</b> 1200 cases per Ha
<b>Packing:</b> Rockmelons are usually packed into single layer "tray" pack cartons of 6-11 fruit or double layer cartons of 10-22 fruit.

This information is subject to the following disclaimer.