

CARROT PLANTING GUIDE

Daucus carota



Carrot is a hardy biennial root vegetable usually grown as an annual crop. It is a popular vegetable eaten raw as a salad or cooked in stew. Locally carrots are grown under rain fed and irrigated conditions mainly for fresh domestic market, processing and little for export.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

Carrot is a cool season crop and can tolerate warmer conditions.

Temperatures during the growing period greatly affect seed germination, taste and colour of the roots.

The optimum temperature for seed germination is 25-30°C, while for growth and good colour development of the roots, the optimum temperature is 16°C. Very high temperatures retard growth while very low temperatures encourage bolting at an early age.

Also high temperatures result in pale, short roots.

Altitude 500m -2000m above sea level.

Carrots require well drained, light loam soils for good root development.



PROPAGATION

Carrots are directly sown in the seeds bed which should be well prepared to fine tilth.

The seeds should be drilled thinly along the rows which are spaced 30cm apart.

When the plants are 5-8 cm they should be thinned to 4-7cm depending on the vigour of the cultivar.

Farming carrots under irrigation can be synchronized with the market demand for maximum benefits to the farmer.



HARVESTING

Carrots mature in 3 to 4 months after planting. Just before harvesting it is recommended to irrigate the crop to reduce roots damage during harvesting.

The roots are dug out, washed and packaged in clean containers before marketing. Carrots lifted by hand with a fork require careful placement or otherwise too many carrots will be damaged by the spikes of the fork.



Disclaimer:

Please note that the planting guides have been compiled with utmost care, but the information should be handled by the user in accordance with his own knowledge and experience of circumstances on the ground. We therefore cannot accept any liability in connection with the information on the planting guide.

