



PEPPERS GROWING GUIDE



Land Preparation

- Ensure crop is grown on fertile land. Use manure to enrich soil with nutrients or apply fertiliser at planting period such as N.P.K at 10gms per hole as general application
Note: It is vital to confirm soil nutrients through soil analysis

Nursery Management

- It is recommended to raise seedlings in the nursery bed for 6-8 weeks before transplanting to the main field or green house.
- Drench with Actara after sowing seeds and before transplanting to prevent early attacks by soil and sucking pests at nursery stage.

Transplanting



- Standard spacing: for green house is 60cm x 45cm and for open field is 60cm x 60cm.
- Drench seedlings: Actara when transplanting to prevent early attack by aphids, whiteflies and thrips.
- Note: Actara is recommended for drenching at nursery transplanting stage for the following benefits:
 - Stronger, vigorous seedlings
 - Longer fibrous roots

- Higher germination rate
- Virus resistance
- Protection against sucking pests

Crop support

- The crop can be grown as a bush or reduced to 2-3 main primary suckers. For bush culture the crop is not pruned but allowed to have more than three main branches.

Under 2-6 primary main branches the crop needs a string/twine to support

- particularly under greenhouse production.
- Under good support and good agronomic growing conditions greenhouse pepper can be harvested for a period of over six months in the green house and more than three months under open fields production.



Fertilizer requirement

- Foliar Fertilizers can be used to supplement Soil Applied Fertilizers especially during periods of crop stress.
- Top dress 6-4 weeks after transplanting with N.P.K (complete fertilizer) at 10gms per plant (confirm through soil nutrients analysis). Repeat three weeks later.





Harvesting

Maturity period of hot peppers is 55 to 75 days depending on the variety.

Pepper harvesting time for hot varieties like Red demon F1, long cayenne is often indicated when the fruits are medium green to bright red. Other varieties like orange demon and habanero red are usually mature after indicating colour change.

Harvesting sweet pepper require some finesse as they have delicate branches which can break if you tug them.





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