



PRODUCTION GUIDELINES FOR 1 HA OF ONIONS

Seedbed seeding rate is about 10grams/sq metre which translate to about 3kgs/300 sq metres/ha

Direct seeding requires about 5 - 8 kgs/hectare, Plant spacing is 0.5 - 0.7m * 0.25 - 0.3m inter row & intra row respectively

Planting time is generally recommended from January - March, for some varieties from February to March, transplant seedlings that are pencil thick size in diameter

Time taken from sowing may be between 6 - 8 weeks upon which seedlings become suitable for transplanting, preferably when they are of pencil thickness in diameter

Cool conditions are favourable for bulb initiation and formation while warm conditions are favourable for physiological maturity

Yield target ranges from 20 - 40 tons per hectare depending on variety, fertilization and Good Agronomic Practices (GAPS)

Fertilizer requirements		Product	Rate/ha	Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potash	Sulphur	Boron	Comment
Base dressing	Agricura Compound C	5:15:12	600	30	90	72			Apply all at or before planting
Top dressing	Ammonium nitrate	AN (34.5%N)	100	35					Apply at 3 - 4 weeks after planting
Top dressing	MOP	MOP	100			60			Top dress at 6 - 8 weeks after transplanting
Total			65	90	132				

Herbicides, Insecticides & Fungicides

Problem	Product	Mixing rate	Application / Comments	PHI
Grasses Only	Trifluralin 48EC	1.1 - 1.6 litres per hectare	Pre-plant incorporated targets mainly grasses & some b/l weeds, only for transplant onions	
	Agil 100EC	0.5 - 2 litres per hectare	Apply early post emergence of grass and crop	
	Gallant super	0.5 - 2 litres per hectare	Apply early post emergence of grass and crop	
Cutworms	Lambda cyhalithrin	200mls per hectare	Apply immediately after transplanting	
	Chlopyrifos	400mls per hectare	Apply immediately after transplanting	
	Fenvelerate	200mls per hectare	Apply immediately after transplanting	
	Decis forte	120mls per hectare	Apply immediately after transplanting	
Alternaria	Tebuconazole 25EC	150mls/100 litres of water	Apply when signs are noticed Repeat as necessary at 7-10 day intervals Don't use on spring onion	
	Dithane M45	400grams per hectare	F.C.S Repeat as necessary at 7 - 10 day intervals	3 days
Caterpillars	Carbaryl 85WP	400grams per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S in 200 litres of water	15 days
Downy Mildew	Azoxystrobin	200 - 400mls per hectare	Apply as a F.C.S in 500 litres of water per hectare & repeat as necessary	21 days
	Dithane M45	400grams per hectare	F.C.S Repeat as necessary at 7 - 10 day intervals, add wetter	3 days
	Metalaxyl + Mancozeb	250grams/100 litres of water	Spray untill run-off. Maximum of 3 sprays/season/crop at 10 day intervals	
Leaf Hoppers	Malathion 25WP	200grams/100 litres of water	F.C.S Repeat as necessary	7 days
Neck Rot	Dithane M45	2kgs per hectare	F.C.S Repeat 7 - 10 day intervals add wetting agent	14 days
Purple Blotch	Tebuconazole 25EC	150mls/100 litres of water	F.C.S when symptoms are noticed. Don't use on spring onions, don't exceed 4 applications/season	
Thrips	Cartap hydrochloride	400grams/100 litres of water	F.C.S apply when thrips are noticed, repeat at 7 - 10 day intervals, don't exceed 2kgs/ha in a season	14 days
	Malathion 25WP	500grams/100 litres of water	F.C.S repeat as necessary at 7 - 10 day intervals	7 days
	Thunder	300mls per hectare	F.C.S alternate with other products, apply two sprays per season	
	Malathion 50EC	180mls/100 litres of water	F.C.S repeat as necessary at 7 - 10 day intervals	7 days
White Rot	Dicloran	400grams/100 litres of water	Direct seeding: Work into top 40mm of soil & then seed, Setts/bulbs spray into furrow before covering	

Approximately 12.5 x 16 litre knapsacks will cover 1 hectare and apply 200 litres of water

ALWAYS READ LABELS BEFORE USING THE PRODUCTS

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