

1. Recommended Varieties

- Yolo wonder B
- Yolo wonder Y
- Hybrid Ace
- Summer Bell
- Blue Star

2. Yield

Expected yield is 8 – 12tonnes/ha.

3. When to Plant

It is best to plant during the cool dry season from April to September. Could be grown all year round using sarlon cloth. Deformed fruit and poor fruit set may occur when night temperature falls below 15.5°C or the day time maximum exceed 32.0°C

4. Seed rate

300grams/ha.

5. Plant Spacing

- 1m between rows
- 50cm between plants



6. Land Preparation

Two ploughing and two harrowing is recommended for good soil tilth.

7. How to Grow Good Seedlings

Use only recommended varieties for high yields and quality products.

Prepare seedbed on a well chosen site.

- a. Seedbed should be raised, well drained and rich in organic matter. If possible dig in compost while preparing your seedbed. Sow seeds thinly and cover with soil. Water the seedbed either in early morning or late afternoon when it is cool.
- b. Seedling trays can also be used to raise good quality seedlings. Potting mix should be filled in the tray and seeds sown in individual holes.

8. Field Planting

- Transplant when seedlings are 3 – 4weeks old or at 3 leaf stage
- Harden seedling before transplanting.
- Seedbed should be watered thoroughly before lifting the seedlings out.
- Transplant during late afternoon or on dull day.

9. Fertilizer Requirements

- Poultry manure: 10t/ha plough in and mix well into soil 2 weeks before planting.
- N.P.K: 13:13:21- 200kg/ha basal application during planting.
- Urea: 100kg/ha – top dress 2 split applications at 2 weeks & 4 weeks after

transplanting.

10. Weed Control

- Practice interrow cultivation and hand weeding.
- A small power tiller can be used for interrow cultivation.

11. Pest Control

- Mites – apply Dimethioate at 15ml/15L of water (Sold as Rogor) or Malathion at 30ml/15L of water
- Cutworm – apply Acephate 75% a.i at 20g/15L of water (Acephate is sold as Orthene & Sunthene) or Suncis at 12ml/15L of water or Endosulfan at 10ml/15L of water.

12. Disease Control

- Bacterial Wilt – use wilt resistant varieties. Dig out affected plants and remove from the field. Follow crop rotation.
- Cucumber Mosaic Virus – destroy affected plants.



13. Harvesting

Ready for harvesting at 3 months after planting and continues for 2 – 3 months.

14. Storage

Cool fruit as soon as possible after harvest to 7 - 10°C and then hold at the same temperature with a relative humidity of 90 - 95% to extend the shelf life up to 2 - 3 weeks.

15. Gross Margin

Yield of 8tonnes/ha if sold at \$3.00/kg can fetch gross income \$19,000 and with a cost of production of \$4000, a farmer gain a profit of \$15000 per hectare.

16. Food Value

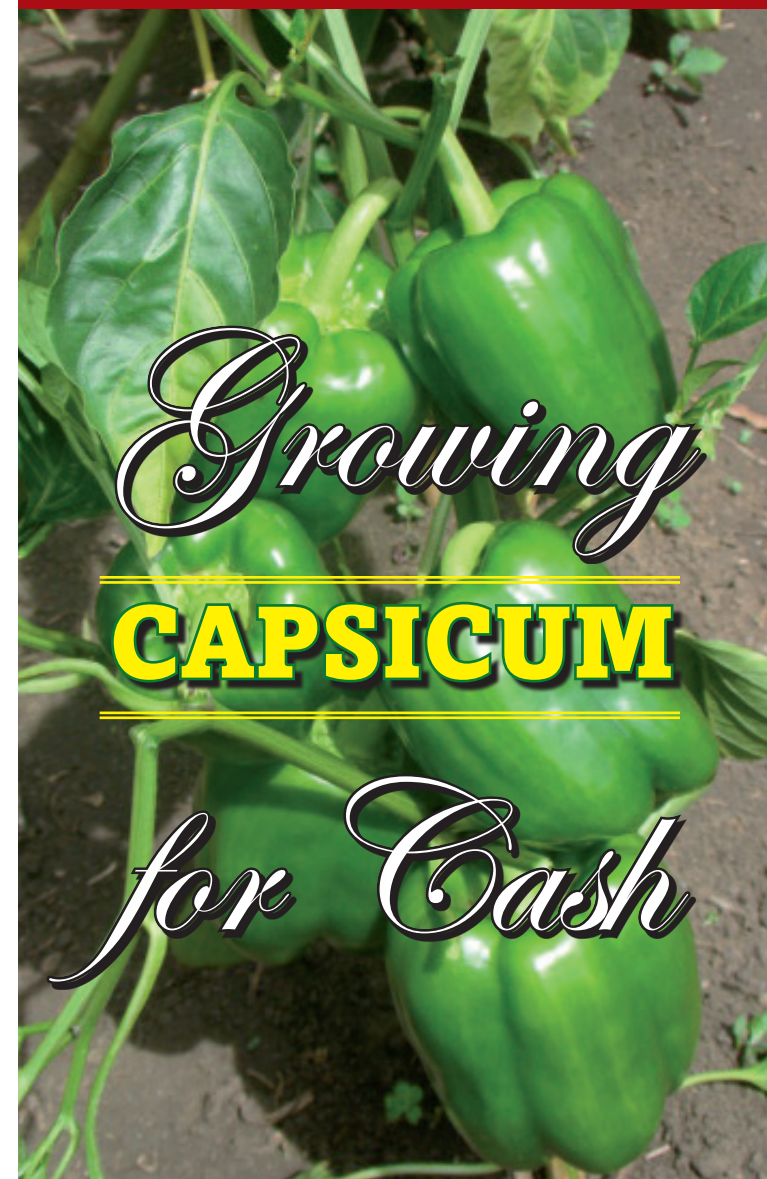
A good source of Vitamin A and Vitamin C.



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