

Varieties

- Contender
- Butter Bean
- Labrador

Yield

A good crop of French bean will normally yield about 7 to 10tonnes per hectare.

When to Plant

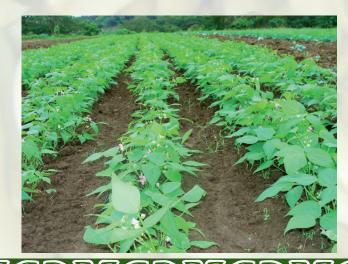
French beans can be grown all year round. However, best results are obtained during cooler months. For year round supply, plant a small patch every 3 to 4 weeks.

Seed Rate

- 45 to 50kg of seed will be required to plant one hectare of French bean.
- Seeds are available from commercial seed suppliers

Spacing

French bean is planted 50cm between rows and 15 to 20cm within rows. This will give a total of 100,000 plants per



hectare.

Land Preparartion

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

How to Plant

French beans are directly sown into the well prepared plots. Irrigation is required in dry weather.

Fertilizer

- 10 tonnes per hectare of Poultry Manure should be incoporated in the soil 2 weeks before planting.
- 200 kg/ha of NPK (13:13:21) should be applied before planting as basal application
- 100 kg/ha of Urea should be applied in two split applications of 50kg/ha each at 2 weeks and 4 weeks after planting.

Weed Control

- Hand weed or hoe when necessary and apply weedicide Fusilade 45mls in 15 litres of water and spray at 4 to 5 leaf stage of weeds.
- Do interrow cultivation and mulching. To get quality produce the crop should be weed free at all times.

Pest Control

Aphids

Apply Dimethioate at 15ml/15L of water (Sold as Rogor)

Disease Control

Powdery Mildew I)

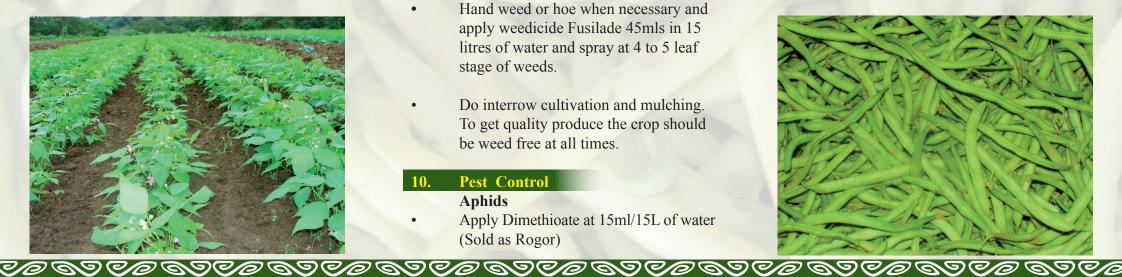
- Apply Benomyl at 10g/15L of water. (Sold as Benlate) or Copper Oxychloride at 60g/15L of water (Sold as KOPI)
- Plough plant remains after harvest and rotate with mildew resistant vegetables like cabbage, tomato and eggplant.

II) Rust, Root Stem Rot and **Angular Leaf Spot**

Apply Benomyl at 10g/15L of water. (Sold as Benlate) or Mancozeb 50gms in 15litres of water or use Kocide at 30g/15L of water to prevent fungal infections

Harvesting

French beans are ready for harvest at 42 to 56 days after planting and should continue for a month. Harvest frequently while the pods are tender. Store the harvested produce in shade to maintain the quality.



13. Returns

One hectare of French bean if sold at \$1.00 to \$2.00/kg will fetch an income return of \$10,000.00 to \$20,000.00. The cost to produce 1kg of French bean is about \$0.16 to \$0.22.

14. Food Value

Source of dietary fibre, Vitamin C, Folate and Vitamin A.





For more information contact: Ministry of Agriculture, Private Mail, Raiwaqa.
Phone: (+679) 338 4233 Fax (+679) 338 7157 / Website: www.agriculture.gov.fj
Facebook: Ministry of Agriculture Fiji Twitter: Fiji Agriculture
Email: agrihelp@govnet.gov.fj



