

## 1. Recommended varieties

- Smooth Canyenne (Large juicy fruit)
- Ripley Queen (Small sweeter fruit – thorny leaves)

## 2. Yield

- Sloppy land plant crop – 60 tonnes/ha with average fruit weight 1.0 to 1.5kg
- 1st Ratoon – 30 to 40 tonnes/ha with average fruit weight 1.0 to 1.5kg.
- 2nd Ratoon – 20 to 25 tonnes/ha with average fruit weight 1.0 to 1.2kg.
- Flatland – 60 to 70 tonnes/ha at a fruit weight of 1.2 to 1.5kg for plant crop.

## 3. Seed Rate

- Sloppy land 37,037 stand/ha (Suckers, slips, crown)
- Flat land 48,000 plants/ha

## 4. Planting time

- Best time to plant is in the dry season (April



to July) to prevent base rot.

- On flat lands use raised beds in wetter months.
- Phase planting recommended for year round production.

## 5. Spacing

- Slopy land - 1.2m between ridges, 0.6m between rows per ridge and 0.3m between plants (Double rows)
- Flat land - 1m between ridges, 0.4m between rows per ridge and 0.3m between plants (Double rows)
- Crown (tops), slips & aerial suckers. Best planting material are suckers weighing 250 to 300g or 25 to 30cm high.
- Quartered plantlets from nursery weighing 250 to 300g.
- Practice planting on slope land to avoid soil erosion under alley cropping with integrated approach.

## 6. Preparing the land

- Two ploughings and two harrowings are recommended for good soil tilth.

## 7. Fertilizing

- Super phosphate – 250kg/ha at planting.
- NPK (13:13:21) – 250kg/ha at 4 months interval after planting.
- Urea – 110kg/ha at 1 month after planting.
- Main season and Mini season apply Eitherel (Ethyphon) at 75ml & in off season at 100ml with 1kg Urea 250g Borax in 50 litres of water. Apply dose in the centre of plant at 50ml/plant. Application to be done after 3pm. Harvest 5 months after hormone application.

- Repeat application if it rains after 3 hours. Soil analysis should be done before fertilizer application.

## 8. Weed Control

- Manual weeding or inter-row cultivation from 1 to 3 months after planting.
- Then use herbicides to control weeds. Karmax (Diuron 80/Diuron 90) at 100g/15L of water to be applied to plot before or after flowering & fruit set. .

## 9. Diseases and Pests

- Heart & Root rot
- Planting during the dry season with good field drainage. Spray fungicide Sundomil at 50g/15L of water).
- Base Rot
- Dip the planting material in fungicide before planting. Dithane M-45 at 22g/15L of water or apply Benomyl at 10g/15L of water (Sold as Benlate).

## 10. Pest Control



- Mealy Bug
- Spray Malathion at 30ml in 15L of water or Suncloprid at 3.75 to 7.5ml/15L of water or Bifenthrin at 14 to 18ml/15L of water or Diazinon at 56 ml/15L of water.

## 11. Harvesting

### Sloppy land

- Plant crop: 40 to 60 tonnes/ha with average fruit weight 1.0 to 1.5kg
- 1st ratoon: 30 to 40 tonnes/ha with average fruit weight 1.0 to 1.5kg
- 2nd ratoon: 20 to 25 tonnes/ha with average fruit weight 1.0 to 1.2kg

### Flatland

60 to 70 tonnes/ ha at a fruit weight of 1.2 to 1.5kg for plant crop

## 12. Gross Margin

At the rate of \$0.60 per kg for local market

### Slope Land

- Plant crop - \$30,000
- 1st Ratoon - \$25,200
- 2nd Ratoon - \$15,600

### Flat land

- Plant crop - \$45,000
- 1st ratoon - \$38,000
- 2nd ratoon - \$31,000

## 13. Food Value

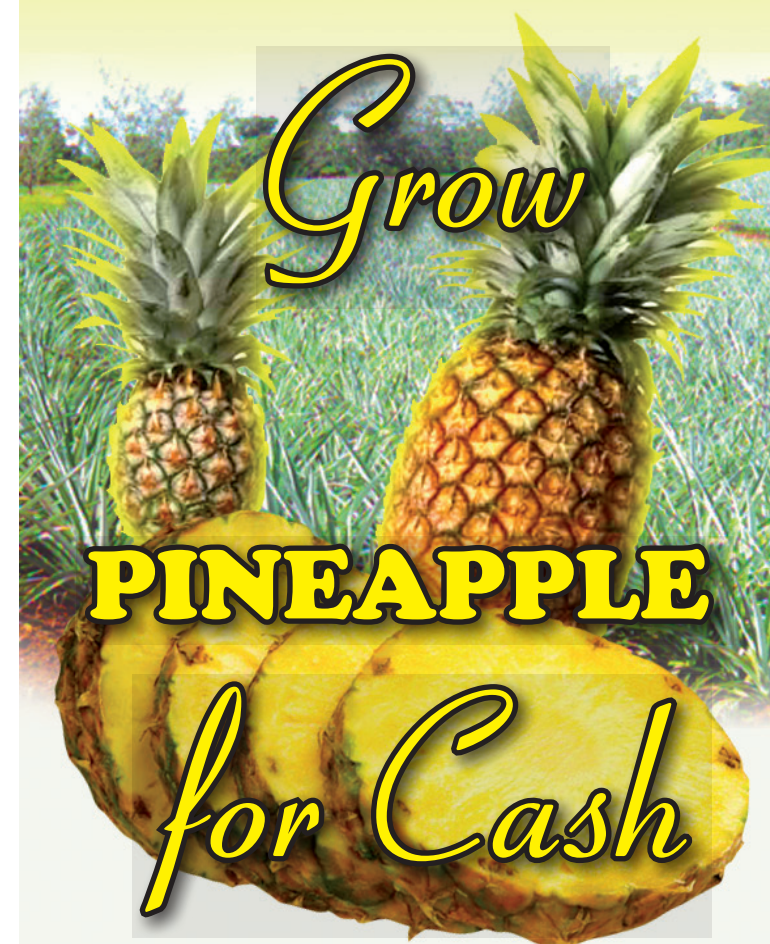
- Good source of Vitamin C and Vitamin B1 and also contains fibre.



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