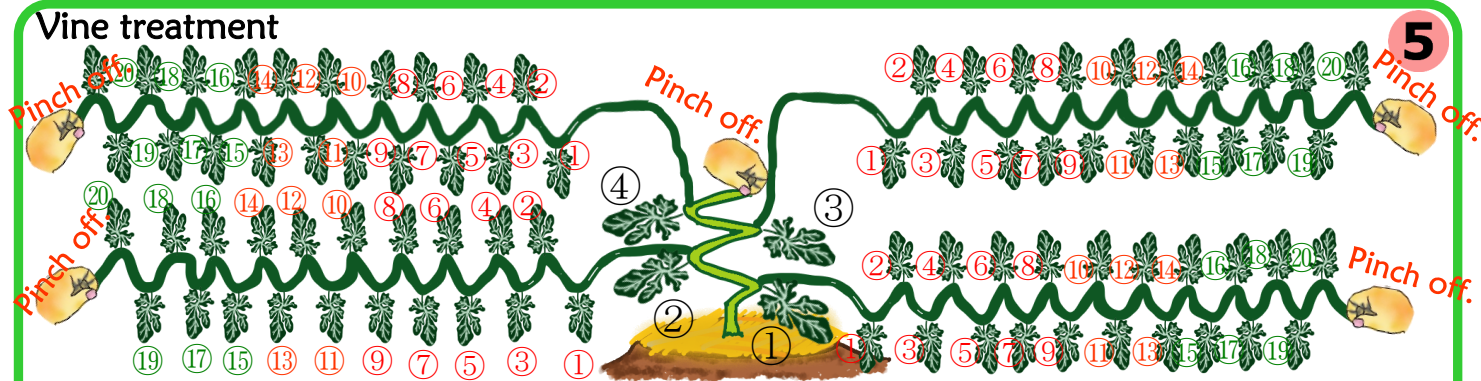


Vine treatment

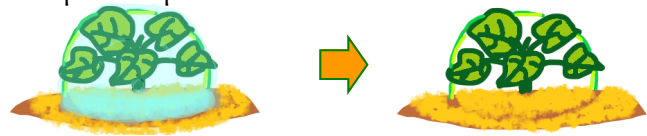


1. After the growing to 7 to 8 nodes, pinch off the vine to keep 5-7 buds for generating 4 vines.
 2. The 4 vines should be pinched off between 16 to 20.
 3. The fruit should be set on between 15 to 20 node. For large fruit, keep 1 fruit on 1 vine, for small, keep 2 fruits on 1 vine.
 4. All flowers and fruits on 1 to 14 must be removed. The fruits on these buds often show low quality.
- Points for good quality fruits : A. 4 main vines, B. 1 large fruit on 1 vine, C. Fruit on terminal of vines.
2 small fruits on 1 vine

Cultivation

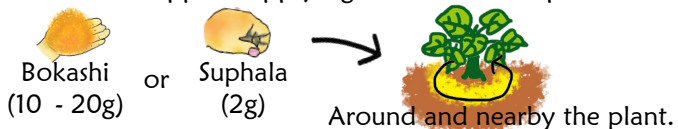
1. Plastic cap

Remove the plastic cap when the plant touches the sides or top of the plastic.



2. Top dressing

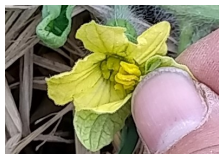
When fruits appear, apply 1 grab of Bokashi / plant.



3. Artificial pollination

Recommended for watermelon in a plastic house.

1. Must do between 8 AM to 10 AM.
2. Select male flower just open a petal.
3. Just touch and put some pollen on a pistil.
4. Use a male flower for 3-4 pistils.



4. Irrigation

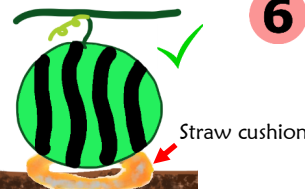
Irrigate once a week around the plant on the ground, but not over the top.



5. Fruit treatment



Do not keep horizontally. Keep up straight on cushion.



6. Harvest timing

A. Count the days after the fruit reaches a ping pong ball size.

A rough standard is ...

- >Bajo (1250m asl.) - 32-35d.
- >Mithun (1550m asl.) - 42-45d

B. Signs of the maturity are...



Yellow color bottom



Dry up tendril



Full of a ping pong ball size

7. After harvest

By storing 2-3 days after the harvest, the sweetness should be increased due to releasing of fruit moisture.



After harvest...

Store 2 - 3 days.

Release moisture...



More sweet !!!



མོ་རྒྱལ་ཞིབ་འཇུག་དང་གོ་འཕེལ་ལྟེ་གི། བཞུགས་པའི་ལས་ཁུངས་
Agriculture Research and Development Center
Bajo Wangdue Phodrang
Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests



Water melon

Starter Guide

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Integrated Horticulture Promotion Project
2016-2021



Points of cultivation

Remarkable characteristics

1

Watermelon growers should remember some remarkable characteristics of watermelon before starting the cultivation.

1. A watermelon plant likes high temperature. The best is around 26°C.
2. The plant does not like wet condition.
3. It is sensitive to continuous cropping injury. So, maintain the period of 5 years between watermelon cropping on same terrace/land.
4. Heavy rain during fruit enlargement season causes fruit cracking.
5. Fruits for late sowing (in April and May) are prone to attack by fruit fly.
6. Red pumpkin beetle attacks the young leaves.

Major work calendar
Bajo (1200m asl.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Menchuna (1550m asl.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Sowing
 Transplanting
 Cultivation
 Harvest
 1st top dressing
 2nd top dressing



Land preparation

2

Compost



400 baskets

Bokashi



100 kg
or
SUPHALA : 10 kg

Ash



10 bags
or
Dolomite : 8 bags



It's the standard
for
one acre land.



Seed in pots-sowing

3

Nursery soil :

Soil
 + Sand
 + Biochar
 + Compost
 + Bokashi



Soil

Sand

Biochar

Compost

Bokashi

Biochar (soil cover)

Nursery soil

Biochar

1 Seed depth :
 2 2-3 seeds size
 3

2-3 seeds/pot



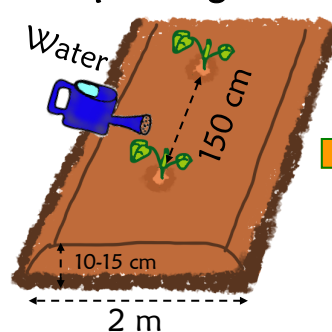
Plastic tunnel



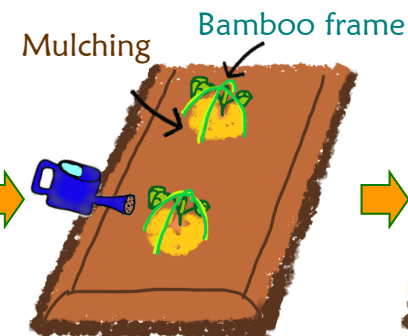
Plant in the field
at 4-5 leaves stage.

Transplanting

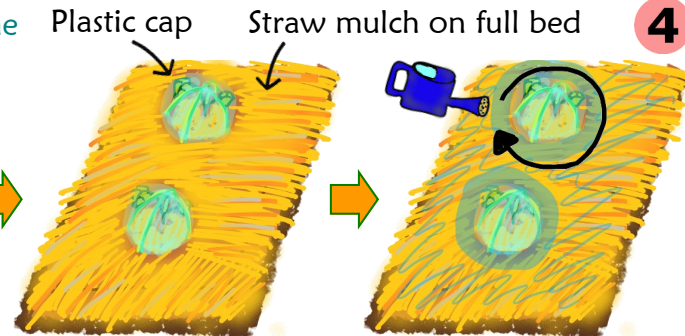
4



1. Irrigate right after transplanting and then do mulching with rice husk, rice or wheat straw.



2. After mulching irrigate once again. Make a frame for capping.



3. After transplanting, provide plastic cap to keep moisture and prevent from cold air. On the other hand, make 15-20 holes at the top of the cap as a countermeasure of over heating. One side of the plastic should be opened after every week for irrigation.

