October 2020

BUNCHING ONION
APACHE

STARKE AYRES®
Member of the PLENNEGY GROUP

ADAPTABLE RED-SHANKED BUNCHING ONION

- Suited to prepacking and fresh market
- Multiple red coloured sheaths
- Single stems
- Dark green leaves
- Contrasts well with white-stemmed varieties in pre-packs

Climatic Requirements:

Soil temperatures for germination:
minimum: 10°C
optimum: 24°C
maximum: 35°C
Air temperatures for plant growth:
minimum: 12°C
optimum: 24°C

Soil Requirements:

Sandy loam to loam soils with good drainage characteristics. Well drained and light textured soils produce clean and well presented end product. Avoid soils with < pH 6 - nutrient uptake is affected at these pH levels. Spring onions in general are sensitive to saline soils.

Plant Spacing:

Optimal plant population is 1,000,000 - 2,000,000 plants/ha, depending on size required. Allow for in-row spacing of 20 - 40 mm between plants in the row. Inter-row spacing of 200 - 250 mm between rows. For best results spring onions must be produced on raised beds.

Nutrient Guidelines:

N required / ton spring onions produced: 3.9 kg / ton product.
P required / ton spring onions produced: 0.7 kg / ton product.
K required / ton spring onions produced: 4.1 kg / ton product.
Apply Ca as CaNO3 top-dressing during the initial growth of young plants. Apply micro nutrients as foliar feed or as fertigation to plants. Do not over apply N as this may lead to quality problems with the end product.

Irrigation Guidelines:

Keep soils moist, avoiding crust forming after planting to aid seedling emergence. Bunching onions have shallow root systems - frequent irrigation if essential for the crop. Water required from planting to emergence : 15 - 20 mm / week. Water required from emergence to seedling establishment : 20 - 25 mm / week. Water required from seedling establishment to maturity : 25 - 35 mm / week.

Weed Control:

Bunching onions compete poorly against weeds in field as they take long to canopy. Early field cultivation will kill off most weeds easing pressure on the growing crop. Mechanical cleaning of fields is not advisable as this will cause damage to plants.

Resistance: is the ability of a plant variety to restrict the growth and development of a specified pest or pathogen and/or the damage they cause when compared to susceptible plant varieties under similar environmental conditions and pest or pathogen pressure. Resistant varieties may exhibit some disease symptoms or damage under heavy pest or pathogen pressure (HR = High resistance, IR = Intermediate resistance).