

WATERMELON ARIADNE



**A LARGE ALL-SWEET TYPE HYBRID WATERMELON
WITH EXCELLENT FLESH COLOUR AND QUALITY**



- Early maturity
- Deep red, firm flesh with long shelf life
- High yielding, with high brix and excellent taste
- Resistant to Fusarium & Anthracnose

Type

A hybrid All-Sweet type watermelon.

Maturity

Main season ± 86 days.

Plant Characteristics

Vigorous plant with healthy leaf cover that protect the fruit well.

Plant Population: 4,000 to 8,000 plants per hectare.

Adaption: ARIADNE is recommended for early production. For grafting, best adapted with *Lagenaria spp.* or medium vigorous *C. maxima* x *C. moschata* rootstocks.

Variety Characteristics

Fruit Characteristics: Large, elongated fruit with weight of 10 - 13kg. The rind has a medium-dark green colour with light green stripes. The flesh has deep red colour with firm texture, excellent flavour and high brix.

Pollination: Approximately 7 male flowers develop for every female flower. When flowers appear, 2 to 4 bee hives should be placed per ha.

Fertilisation: Approximate nutrient requirements depending on soil type, soil analyses, and crop load; N: 90-170 kg/ha: 30% pre-plant and the balance as two side dressings.

P: 15-180 kg/ha: Apply pre-plant and work down to root depth.

K: 40-250 kg/ha: 30% pre-plant and the balance as two side dressings, simultaneously with the N-application (eg. KNO₃).

Climate: Optimum germination temperature: 27°C to 32°C, with night temperature not lower than 24°C. Optimum growth temperatures at night are 18 - 20°C, and day 24 - 30°C, and for ripening 15 - 25°C. Do not sow or transplant into the open field until the temperatures are warm enough, unless plastic mulches are used.

Soil: Best performance is obtained on newly prepared, sandy-loam soils, which are rich in humus and fertilizer, well-drained, with pH (H₂O) = 5.6 – 6.8. Heavy soils should be avoided.

Features & Benefits

ARIADNE is early maturing and very high yielding with large, elongated fruit. The flesh has deep red colour, firm texture, excellent flavour and high brix. Suitable for fresh market use.

Disease Resistance: Intermediate Resistance: Fon (1) / Co (1).

Disclaimer: This information is based on our observations and/or information from other sources. As crop performance depends on the interaction between the genetic potential of the seed, its physiological characteristics, and the environment, including management, we give no warranty express or implied, for the performance of crops relative to the information given nor do we accept any liability for any loss, direct or consequential, that may arise from whatsoever cause. Please read the Starke Ayres Standard Terms and Conditions of Sale before ordering seed.

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).