

# BRINJAL VIOLET MOON



## HYBRID EGGPLANT WITH A SPINELESS CALYX AND ATTRACTIVE HALF-LONG SHAPE FRUITS

- Spineless calyx help with the ease of picking and packing
- Very dark coloured fruit
- Adapted for production openfield or under protection
- Ability to keep its colour to the end of production
- Well suitable for long production cycles

### Type

Hybrid eggplant for the fresh market suited to long cycle production in open field or under protection.

### Maturity

Early maturing, approximately 70 - 80 days to first pick after transplanting in summer. The period to first pick can vary considerably between warm and cool season plantings.

### Plant Characteristics

VIOLET MOON is a medium, vigorous and productive plant. It has easy fruit setting during the life cycle. Plant height varies between 100 - 140 cm.

**Fruit Characteristics:** VIOLET MOON has very high quality medium size, half-long fruits with an average mass of 300 - 500g, it has glossy, dark purple coloured fruit with excellent fruit firmness.

### Variety Characteristics

**Plant Population:** A plant population of 18,000 - 25,000 per hectare is recommended. Between row spacing of 0.9 - 1.5m and an in row spacing of 45 - 90cm would be adequate. For greenhouse production plants might need trellising.

**Growing Guidelines:** Eggplants prefer well drained loam to sandy loam soils, but perform well in different soil types. Soil PH: (H<sub>2</sub>O) - 5.5 - 6.8. The following program can be used as a nutrient guideline: (please note that a soil analysis should be taken into account).

Total Requirement kg/ha: (pure element)

N: 130 - 140kg/ha (45% applied at pre plant and the difference in 2 - 3 top dressings)

P: 60 - 95kg/ha (all pre plant)

K: 60 - 80kg/ha (all pre plant)

**Climate Requirements:** Eggplants are sensitive to frost, and require a long, warm to hot growing season for best results. Optimum growth and production is obtained with mean daily temperatures between 21°C and 29°C. At temperatures above 35°C, flowers may be shed. Growth, yield and fruit quality tend to decrease at mean temperatures below 18°C. When eggplants are grown in winter and early spring in frost-free areas, a dark discolouration of the flesh may occur and the skin colour may not develop well.

### Features & Benefits

Due to its spineless calyx, VIOLET MOON offers the eggplant grower the advantage of ease of picking and packing. The variety is highly sought after in markets because of its attractive shape, size and colour.

**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).