

Semina Agro

Drumstick (Moringa)

Characteristics of the Drumstick

- 1. Production twice in a year.
- 2. Early fruit production : around 8 to 9 months after transplanting
- 3. The raw stick of this variety is greenish in colour and tastes good.
- 4. The length of each stick is 45 to 75 cm.
- 5. High Productivity: Each plant can yield 300 to 400 sticks.
- 6. Each plant can yield production for more than 5 years.

Temperature and soil conditions

- A. The greatness of drumstick is, it can survive in drought conditions with minimal water requirement. They can thrive in poor soils also. Hot and humid climate is suitable for growth and dry climate for flowering. The temperature of 25 to 30 degree C is suitable for flowering in drumstick.
- B. The Moringa/Drumstick plant grows best in well drained sandy or loamy soil with a slightly acid pH of 6.2 to neutral 7.0. It can tolerate poor soil including coastal areas.

Seed sowing: Plant one to two seeds in each pit in one to two cm deep and keep the soil moist but not too wet. Germination will occur within 5 to 12 days.

- Soak the seeds in water overnight before planting.
- Germination will occur within 5 to 12 days.



Transplanting Spacing: The seedlings are planted in $45 \times 45 \times 45 \text{ cm}$. pits. If plantation lasts for more than 5 years, 8×8 feet distance is recommended for optimum plant population.

Land preparation for planting: Land should be prepared 15 days before planting. Create a soft and clean soil, free from weeds so that plants can be on optimal conditions for the growth of the root system

Irrigation : Irrigation at an interval of 8-10 days since drumstick plants grows rapidly should be given on 8th day without fail during summer to get drumsticks with 1.5 to 2 feet

in length. In rainy & winter season, 10-12 days at an interval of 5th day in summer when plants bear pods. Please note excess water during winter and to fetch high rates in market, temptation may cause failure in flowering initiation & eventually may turn in to undue & unwanted long green vegetative growth & cause total crop failure.

Manure Fertilizers: Application of Farm Yard Manure @ 8-10 kg per plant has to be applied to the planting pit 8-10 days before planting of seedlings at per plant. Chemical fertilizers should be avoided. Plant Protection: Generally drumstick plant is not prone to diseases and pests.

Harvesting: Around 8 to 9 months after transplanting and can go on for 5 years or more. Fruits should be harvested 2 times a year, preferably during cooler hours.

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