

RADISHES

Varieties

Common: Cherry Belle, Monica, Tinto, Red Satin, Kasper.

Chinese (Lo Bok): Mino Summer Cross, Everest.

Japanese (Daikon): Relish Cross, April Cross, Omny.

See your seed dealer for the most recent variety recommendations.

Seed Treatment

Use only hot-water-treated seed when planting into new land where radishes have not been grown. If damping-off has been a problem, treat seed with **Thiram** seed protectant, according to label directions.

Seeding

Use a drill with a scatter shoe to drop 21 seeds 15 mm deep every 25 cm of row. Space rows 20 cm apart.

Fertilizer

A soil test is necessary to determine phosphate and potash requirements. See Chapter 1 for recommendations based on soil test results.

Muck Soils – Broadcast and incorporate 70 kg/ha (28 kg/acre) nitrogen and all of the required phosphate and potash.

If fertilizer is to be banded at time of seeding, rates greater than 70 kg/ha (28 kg/acre) of potash should be broadcast and incorporated prior to seeding.

Downy Mildew

Downy mildew frequently occurs in late summer and fall, and shows as a white, fuzzy fungus in patches on the undersides of leaves and rough blackened patches on roots.

Control

1. Avoid planting radishes after radishes in the same year.
2. Bury crop remains or remove them from field after harvest to prevent carry-over of diseased refuse, control volunteers and wild radish.
3. Reduce density of plantings in the late summer to improve air circulation.
4. Increase the phosphorus to potassium ratio of the fertilizer applied prior to late seedings.

RHUBARB (FIELD)

Varieties

German Wine, Macdonald, Crimson.

Propagation

Healthy, vigorous 3 to 4-year old crowns are divided to obtain two or more buds per seed-piece.

Soils

Use a well-drained but moisture-holding soil with a pH of 5.5 to 7.0. The lighter soils will produce an earlier crop but may require irrigation.

Fields to be planted should be plowed deeply and worked in the fall and spring to prevent the weeds from going to seed.

Fertilizers

A soil test is necessary to determine phosphate and potash requirements. See Chapter 3 for recommendations based on soil test results.

Lime should be applied if the pH is below 5.6. Do not apply manure or fertilizer within 2 weeks of the lime application.

Manure at 22 to 45 tonnes/ha (9 to 18 tonnes/acre) may be applied in the fall or as early as possible in the spring.