

BEANS (SNAP)

Varieties

Fresh market:

Green: Jade, Bronco, Ambra, Savannah, Caprice, Sahara, Valentino.

Yellow wax: Goldrush, Unidor, Rocdor.

Process market: Consult processors.

See your seed dealer for the most recent variety recommendations.

Seed Treatment

Purchase fungicide treated seed if possible, otherwise treat seed with **Thiram**, **Captan** or **Apron** seed protectants, according to manufacturers' directions.

Soil Temperature

Good germination is obtained at soil temperatures of 16 to 29°C. Seed rot is a serious problem at lower temperatures.

Seeding and Spacing

Always handle bean seed with care, as rough handling lowers the percentage of germination.

For bush beans, seed 10 to 16 seeds/50 cm of row 50 to 90 cm apart or as required for a particular mechanical harvester. Losses due to gray and white mold are greatest at close spacing. Aim for a final plant stand of 300,000 plants per hectare (12,000/acre). This is usually 75 to 100 kg/ha (30 to 40 kg/acre) of seed depending upon seed size and germination percentage.

For pole beans, seed 7 to 10 seeds/50 cm of row and space rows 1.65 m apart.

Sow at a uniform depth of 4 cm if pre-emergence herbicides are to be used.

Fertilizer

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 on mineral soils.

Bush beans—Broadcast and disc in required potash prior to seeding. At time of seeding, band

15 to 40 kg/ha (6 to 16 kg/acre) of nitrogen and all the required phosphate 5 cm to the side of the seed, and 7.5 to 10 cm deep.

Pole beans—Broadcast and disc in the required potash. At time of seeding band 70 kg/ha (28 kg/acre) of nitrogen and all the phosphate 5 cm to the side of the seed and 7.5 to 10 cm deep. Just prior to blossoming, side-dress with 40 kg/ha (16 kg/acre) of nitrogen.

Magnesium may be required on light soils.

Weed Control

See Table 7.4. See also the fold-out chart inside the back cover.

Bean Leaf Stages

