

TURNIPS

(SWEDES, RUTABAGAS)

Varieties

Swedes (rutabagas): Laurentian, American Purple Top (trial).

Turnips: Purple Top White Globe, Fuku Komachi (All white).

See your seed dealer for the most recent variety recommendations.

Seed Treatment

Use seed treated with **Thiram** seed protectant. The use of hot-water-treated seed is a precaution against blackleg and black rot.

Seeding and Spacing

For summer harvest, sow as early in the spring as possible. For later harvests sow up to the 7th of June.

Seed 375 to 560 g/ha (150 to 225 g/acre) of seed at a depth of 1.5 to 2.5 cm. Space rows 60 cm apart and plants within the row 15 cm apart.

Fertilizer

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

Manure – Apply the year before and not in the year of seeding.

Fertilizer – Broadcast and disc in 45 kg/ha (18 kg/acre) nitrogen and the required phosphate and potash. Boron at 4.5 kg/ha (1.8 kg/acre) should be added to the fertilizer mix. If further boron is required, use Solubor at 0.5 to 1.1 kg/ha (0.2 to 0.45 kg/acre) when turnips are 2.5 cm in diameter (see Brown Heart, below).

Weed Control

See Table 7.61. See also the fold-out chart inside the back cover.