

lettuce seed production

jw seeds



Stock seed

Receiving of seed no later than beginning of July.

Sowing period

Beginning to middle of August in the nursery.

Nursery

Located in George, as close possible to the sea/ocean (frost free area and high relative humidity).



Field information

Transplanting of seedlings occur during middle of September. Drip irrigation is most suitable for seed production. Plant population is 60 000 - 70 000 plants/ha.



Disease & pest control

Aphid control after transplanting is of utmost importance. Powdery mildew and botrytis control on a 14 day interval, if necessary.



Crop handling

Seed heads are sometimes cut at its apex in an X-shape to loosen the tight fitting leaves over the seed stalk. Plants are sometimes trellised to prevent fall-over of top-heavy plants.



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Seed harvesting

12-14 weeks after transplanting, seeds are harvested by hand. 3 to 4 harvests per season will be possible. Most varieties have a flowering period of 40-60 days.

Seed conditioning

Harvested seeds are dried as soon as possible on the farm.

Seed yield

Average of 400-500 kg/ha, depending on variety.



Additional data

800 000 - 900 000 seeds /kg.

Purity and germination

Seed lots are analysed for purity (~100%) and germination (>95%) at the official laboratory in Oudtshoorn.

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