

## Crop: Onions

Production season	Best grown winter from February to August. However, in Zimbabwe the crop can be grown all year round, but is prone to bolting in summer.		
Area to plant	1ha/10 000m <sup>2</sup> (100mx100m)	1000m <sup>2</sup> (20mx50m)	100m <sup>2</sup> (10mx10m)
Seed required	2.5 kg-3.5 kg	250g-350g	25g-35g
Plant population	500 000-800 000	50 000-80 000	5 000-8 000
Plant spacing in row	5cm-8cm		
Spacing between rows	30cm to 45cm		
Compound S Fertiliser kg/ha	800-1000	80-100	42651
AN Top dressing kg/ha	100-250	10-25	1-2.5
Manure kg/ha	5 000	500	50
Days to Harvest	120 to 220 days depending on the season and variety		
Harvest duration	Done when 50% of the tops have wilted or collapsed		
Thrips and Cutworms are the common pests and downy mildew disease. For control and application rate options, see the chemical labels			
Irrigation	Overhead, Pivot, Micro-jet systems are all suitable methods. Ensure the soil is moist at all times.		
Post-harvest handling	Bulbs dry off satisfactorily when thinly laid out in rows in an open shed/field for a week		
Normal packaging	Sacks	Sacks	Sacks
Estimated Yield (kg/ha)	30 000-70 000	3 000-7 000	300-700

