onion seed production

jw seeds







Stock seed

Receiving of seed no later than end of January.

Sowing periodMiddle March to April.

Field information:

Onion seed production is a two year production cycle. Seed is sown in seedbeds and the seedlings is transplanted in August for bulb production. Seed can also be sown directly and then we do not transplant the seedlings. Bulbs are lifted from December to January and stored in well ventilated sheds. Bulbs are transplanted in April/May and full flowering September/ October. Drip irrigation is most suitable for seed production. Plant population is 120 000 – 150 000 bulbs/ha. Approximately 45 days

after pollination the seed is mature and can be harvested. Seed umbles are harvested by hand and dried before the umbles are threshened. Seed is precleaned on the farm then transported to the seed cleaning facility in Oudtshoorn where the seed is cleaned to the client specifications.



Disease and pest control

Thrips and weed control is very important to help with disease control. A healthy seedstalk is necessary to get high quality seed. A regular spraying program is used to keep plants healthy.





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Seed conditioning

After thrashing, seed are kept in bags until delivery at the cleaning facility.

Seed yield

Average of 400-1000 kg/ha for hybrids and 800-1200kg for open pollinated varieties.







Additional data: 200 000 - 300 000 seeds /kg.

Purity and germination:

Seed lots are analysed for purity (~100%) and germination (>85%) at the official laboratory in Oudtshoorn.

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