



AGPRO
DIRECT

TECH SHEET:

Summer Lettuce Production

Lettuce has traditionally been a cool season crop and is normally grown from March through to September. However most growers now plant lettuce all year round with better varieties, choice of production sites, trying to achieve better overall price for lettuce during the summer and winter months. Irrigation is imperative to summer production for consistent yields and quality.

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

Optimum temperatures for lettuce growing are ± 16 °C. They can endure a light frost but a heavy frost before harvest can scorch the wrapper leaves and heads, leading to collapse and or disease to follow. Varying conditions i.e. extreme hot and cold temperatures can affect the formation of lettuce heads and may lead to bolting. The growing period for lettuce in summer varies from 40 to 50 days and in winter 60 – 85 days. Lettuce is sensitive to acid soils and prefers a soil pH range of 5.9 – 6.5.

LETTUCE CULTIVAR CHOICE

There are now a range of varieties suited for different growing periods. Consult your nurseryman or seed supplier as to what varieties are suited to the months you are growing and your region.

At AGPRO we have a full range of crop protection products starting with the “spray out” using herbicides, residual weed control, and very importantly the fungicide and insecticide programme ensuring clean and marketable lettuce.



AGPRO HORTICULTURE
Freephone 0508 536 536
for technical assistance

THE VALUE OF EXPERIENCE



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SUGGESTED AGPRO SPRAY PROGRAMME

The AGPRO programme below aims to give a guide on how to get the best “keep the crop clean” from weed control, taking care of pest issues, and making sure you get the best out of your crop.

SPRAYOUT YOUR CROPPING LAND AND OLD PASTURE:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Glyphosate 510 CIPC	Sprayout early Pre transplanting	Remove any weed competition Residual weed control	3-5L/ha 6-11L/ha	Add 500ml Rapidstart/ha Check organic carbon levels
AGPRO Pendimethalin AGPRO Imidacloprid	Pre transplanting Nursery stage	Residual grass and broadleaf control Prevention of aphid damage/virus	2-4L/ha 11.7-17.5ml/ 2.5L water per 1000 plants	Use higher rate on heavy soils 1 day prior to transplanting

SUGGESTED PROGRAMME POST EMERGENCE (from 3-4 weeks after transplanting):

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
Propyzamide	3-4 leaf weeks after transplant	Residual action grass and broadleaf	2.5-3.5L/ha	Apply before weeds emerge May-September
AGPRO Carbendazim	Within 2 weeks of transplanting	Early prevention of sclerotinia	2L/ha	Apply prior to rain
AGPRO Chlorothalonil AGPRO Indox 150	Every 7-14 days At first sign of leaf damage	Prevents most pathogens establishing Controls egg and caterpillars	2.1L/ha 500ml/ha	Apply alone or in a tank mix Apply as a tank mix
AGPRO Dimethomorph	At first sign of downy mildew	Systemic control, prevention of spread	360ml/ha	Apply with suitable protectant
AGPRO Carbendazim AGPRO Piraphid Xtra AGPRO Copper Star	At sign of botrytis At sign of aphids At first sign of bacterial infections	Early prevention of botrytis Kills aphids, prevents virus establishing Hardens leaves, prevents bacteria forming	500ml-1L/ha 250g/ha 500g-1kg/ha	Apply prior to or after rain Apply with fungicide, 3 day w/p Apply in combination with a protectant fungicide

OTHER CHEMICAL OPTIONS:

Always add AGPRO Latex 520 to the above fungicide applications, to give better spreading and adhesion of products especially through spells of wet weather.

As this is a guide, please consult individual crop advisors in your area, read all labels thoroughly prior to applications.



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