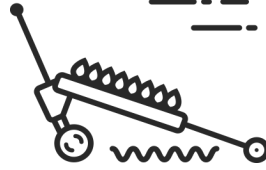


# GROWER'S NOTES

BY PAPERPOT CO.



## FENNEL

### CROP & PAPERPOT DATA:

<b>PAPER CHAIN POT</b>	6"
<b>ROWS PER 100' X 30" BED</b>	4
<b>TRAYS PER 100' X 30" BED</b>	3
<b>KWIK KLIK™ TOP PLATE</b>	<b>Plate:</b> Paperpot (264 holes) / <b>Thickness:</b> 3mm / <b>Hole Diameter:</b> 5mm
<b>SEEDS PER CELL</b>	1
<b>SEED PER 100' X 30' BED</b>	760 seeds (+/-) *Always round up when placing seed orders to ensure having enough
<b>RECOMMENDED CULTIVARS</b>	Orazio, Preludio
<b>GERMINATION</b>	72 hours at 78°F
<b>DAYS TO TRANSPLANT</b>	28 days (+/-) *time from seeding to transplanting in the field
<b>DAYS TO MATURITY</b>	60 days (+/-) *time from seeding to being ready for harvest
<b>HARVEST WINDOW</b>	14 days (+/-) *time crop is at ideal stage for harvest after reaching maturity
<b>TOTAL DAYS IN FIELD</b>	46 days (+/-) *DTM + harvest window - days to transplant
<b>HARVEST UNIT</b>	Bulb (3-5" in diameter)
<b>TARGET CROP YIELD</b>	760 bulbs (+/-)
<b>PRICE PER UNIT</b>	\$1.50 *depending on local market pricing
<b>REVENUE PER BED</b>	\$1140 *depending on local market pricing

### SUGGESTED TOOLS:

<b>SEEDING</b>	Kwik Klik™ Drop Seeder, Paperpot Germination Trays, Paper Chain Pots
<b>TRANSPLANTING</b>	Paperpot Transplanter
<b>TILTHING</b>	Power Harrow or Precision Depth Roller (With no tractor: Tither)
<b>AERATION</b>	Meadow Creature Broadfork
<b>SHAPING</b>	Bed Preparation Rake
<b>WEED CONTROL</b>	Flame Weeder
<b>CULTIVATION</b>	Wheel Hoe w/Bio-Disc Cultivator, or Flex Tine Weeder

## **BED PREPARATION**

- ⊞ Broadfork the bed to aerate and loosen the soil.
- ⊞ Smooth and shape the bed with a bed preparation rake, removing any debris.
- ⊞ If the previous crop was fertilized, fennel will do fine without reapplication. If not, here are two options:
  - ⊞ 1) Layer on 1" of compost, enough to mostly cover the native soil.
  - ⊞ 2) Sprinkle on a combination of alfalfa meal and pelleted chicken manure.
- ⊞ If layering compost, do not till in hopes of smothering any surface weed seed.
- ⊞ If adding amendments, till the top 1-2" of soil to mix in amendments.
- ⊞ Irrigate for 10-14 days\*, allowing any weed seed in top layer of soil to germinate.
- ⊞ Flame weed the bed when the cotyledons of the weed seeds have emerged.

## **SEEDING**

- ⊞ Prepare trays with 6" paper chain pots, and fill with potting mix.
- ⊞ Install Paperpot bottom plate and specified top plate into Kwik Klik™ (KK) Drop Seeder.
- ⊞ Pour seed onto top plate and rotate until one seed fills each hole.
- ⊞ Position the KK Drop Seeder over the tray, ensuring the holes are lined up with the cells, and click to drop the seeds.
- ⊞ Water the trays, then place in germination chamber for 72 hours at 78°.
- ⊞ Transfer the trays to greenhouse tables after germination.

## **TRANSPLANTING**

- ⊞ Thoroughly water trays before heading to the field for transplanting.
- ⊞ Using the Paperpot Transplanter, plant the four rows of fennel.
- ⊞ There should be 7.5" between rows, and 3.75" from the outer rows to the edge of the bed.
- ⊞ Reference <https://paperpot.co/learn/> for instructional videos if needed.

## **IRRIGATION**

- ⊞ Water the beds thoroughly with overhead irrigation, or four rows of drip.
- ⊞ Frequent shallow waterings will support rapid growth.

## **CULTIVATION**

- ⊞ 10-14 days after transplanting, cultivate using a Terrateck Wheel Hoe with the bio-disc cultivator attachment.
- ⊞ A weekly pass with the flex tine weeder is also an effective tool for preventing weeds.

## **HARVEST**

- ⊞ Fennel is ready for harvest when the bulbs are 3-5".
- ⊞ Fennel is harvested while straddling the 30" bed and cutting at the base with a harvest knife.
- ⊞ Discard any fennel that has blemished or soft spots.

## **WASHING AND PACKING**

- ⊞ Spray all sides of the bulbs, one at a time, with the high pressure Washdown Gun.
- ⊞ Transfer the washed bulbs to totes, and store at 35° until taken to market."