GROWER'S NOTES =

BY PAPERPOT CO.



HEAD LETTUCE

CROP & PAPERPOT DATA:

PAPER CHAIN POT	4" (seed every other cell for 8" in-row spacing)
ROWS PER 100' X 30" BED	3
TRAYS PER 100' X 30" BED	4
KWIK KLIK™ TOP PLATE	Plate: Paperpot Skip Plate (132 holes) / Thickness: 3mm / Hole: 5mm
SEEDS PER CELL	1
SEED PER 100' X 30' BED	528 seeds (+/-) *Always round up when placing seed orders to ensure having enough
RECOMMENDED CULTIVARS	Green Forest (romaine), Adriana (butter)
GERMINATION	48 hours at 68°F
DAYS TO TRANSPLANT	28 days (+/-) *time from seeding to transplanting in the field
DAYS TO MATURITY	56 days (+/-) *time from seeding to being ready for harvest
HARVEST WINDOW	8 days (+/-) *time crop is at ideal stage for harvest after reaching maturity
TOTAL DAYS IN FIELD	34 days (+/-) *DTM + harvest window - days to transplant
HARVEST UNIT	Heads
TARGET CROP YIELD	426 heads (+/-)
PRICE PER UNIT	\$3 *depending on local market pricing
REVENUE PER BED	\$1278 *depending on local market pricing

SUGGESTED TOOLS:

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

BED PREPARATION

- O 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, head lettuce will do fine without reapplication. If not, here are two options:
 - \bigcirc 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 tilth in hopes of smothering any surface weed seed.
- \bigcirc If adding amendments, tilth 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 4" paper chain pots, and fill with potting mix.
- Install Paperpot bottom plate and specified skip plate into Kwik Klik™ (KK) Drop Seeder.
- O Note: the pattern on the skip plate will only allow a seed to drop in every other cell of the paper chain, creating 8" in-row spacing.
- 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.
- \bigcirc Water the trays, then place in germination chamber for 48 hours at 68°.
- 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 three rows of summer crips lettuce.
- \bigcirc 3 rows: 10" between rows, and 5" from the outer rows to the edge of the bed.
- Reference <u>https://paperpot.co/learn/</u> for instructional videos if needed.

IRRIGATION

- Water the beds thoroughly with overhead irrigation, or four rows of drip.
- Frequent and consistent watering will promote succulent growth and avoid bitterness.

CULTIVATION

- 14-16 days after transplanting, cultivate using a collinear hoe.
- After this point the heads should fill out to form a canopy and shade out any potential weeds.
- The Flex Tine Weeder is also an effective cultivator for lettuce.

HARVEST

- Harvest in the kneeling position next to the bed, pushing a tote in front of you.
- Use a freshly sharpened knife for harvesting head lettuce.
- Remove slugs and damaged leaves if necessary.

WASHING AND PACKING

- Lettuce heads should be dunked in cold water when brought in from the field.
- Do not soak for longer than one minute to avoid damage from becoming waterlogged.
- Lay the lettuce heads on a drying screen to drip dry.
- Stack the lettuce upside down in totes to continue draining in storage.
- Store at 35° until taken to market.