# GROWER'S NOTES =

# BY PAPERPOT CO.



**Peas** 

# **CROP & PAPERPOT DATA:**

PAPER CHAIN POT	2"
ROWS PER 100' X 30" BED	2
TRAYS PER 100' X 30" BED	4
KWIK KLIK™ TOP PLATE	N/A
SEEDS PER CELL	3 (+/) *Broadcast 400 g of soaked peas evenly over entire tray (200 g dry = 400 g soaked)
SEED PER 100' X 30" BED	1.75 lbs dry (+/-) *Always round up when placing seed orders to ensure having enough
RECOMMENDED CULTIVAR	Sugar Snap
GERMINATION	3 days at 75°F
DAYS TO TRANSPLANT	10 days (+/-) *time from seeding to transplanting in the field
DAYS TO MATURITY	60 days (+/-) *time from seeding to being ready for harvest
HARVEST WINDOW	28 days (+/-) *time crop is at ideal stage for harvest after reaching maturity
TOTAL DAYS IN FIELD	78 days (+/-) *DTM + harvest window - days to transplant
HARVEST UNIT	pounds
TARGET CROP YIELD	60 pounds (+/-)
PRICE PER UNIT	\$10 *depending on local market pricing
REVENUE PER BED	\$600 *depending on local market pricing

# **SUGGESTED TOOLS:**

SEEDING	Bucket for soaking, measuring cup for scooping and spreading
TRANSPLANTING	Paperpot Transplanter
TILTHING	Power Harrow or Precision Depth Roller (With no tractor: Tilther)
AERATION	Meadow Creature Broadfork
SHAPING	Bed Preparation Rake
WEED CONTROL	Flame Weeder
CULTIVATION	Collinear Hoe, or Stirrup Hoe

### **BED PREPARATION**

- O Broadfork the bed to aerate and loosen the soil.
- O Smooth and shape the bed with a bed preparation rake, removing any debris.
- Peas will benefit from a fresh application of compost before planting. If compost was added to the previous crop, you can instead add a combination of alfalfa meal and pelleted chicken manure for a boost in fertility.
- 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.
- O Flame weed the bed when the cotyledons of the weed seeds have emerged.

## **SEEDING**

- Soak peas in a bucket of water for 8-24 hours.
- Rinse the peas well after soaking, just prior to planting. An industrial colander works well.
- O Prepare trays with 2" paper chain pots, and fill with potting mix.
- Evenly spread 400 g of soaked peas over the entire tray, ensuring even coverage over each cell.
- The target is approximately 3 seeds per cell.
- O Water trays and place in germination chamber at 75°. Germination should occur at 3 days.
- Transfer the trays to greenhouse tables after germination until 10 days old.

#### TRANSPLANTING

- O Pea seedlings should be transplanted when they are approximately 3-5" tall.
- If root mass has grown through the bottom of the trays and formed a mat, shave off the roots using the ramp of the Paperpot Transplanter.
- O Plant 2 rows on a 30" bed: 15" between rows, 7.5" from the outer rows to the edge of the bed.
- Thoroughly water the trays before heading to the field for transplanting.
- O Reference https://paperpot.co/learn/ for Paperpot instructional videos if needed.

#### **IRRIGATION**

O Peas will do best with two rows of drip. Keeping the pods and foliage dry will avoid disease.

#### **CULTIVATION & TRELLISING**

- Cultivate around 14-18 days after transplanting with a collinear hoe. A side dressing of alfalfa meal or blood meal will benefit the crops at this time as well.
- O When the peas are over 10" tall, covering the beds with straw will help smother future weeds.
- O Pound in a 7' T-post in between the two rows every 10' for the length of the bed.
- Install a 1.25" PVC "T" at the top of each post, and run 1/2" EMT metal pipe through the T's for the length of the bed to form a top rail.
- Trellis netting can then be installed between all of the posts, and fastened to the top rail.
- O Periodically run tomato twine in front of the plants to prevent them from falling forward.

## **HARVEST**

- When peas are around the thickness of your little finger, they can be harvested every other day.
- Harvest starting at the base of the plant and move upward.
- Pinch the peas between your index and middle finger, and use your thumb to snap above the cap of the pod to avoid breakage.

#### WASHING AND PACKING

- Avoid washing peas, and if they do get wet, keep the storage bins open for a couple hours in the cooler before sealing them back up.
- Peas can be stored at 35-40° and should be sold within four days of harvest.