

Black carrot farming

Black carrot farming has gained popularity due to the increased demand for exotic and nutrient rich vegetables. Black carrots thrive in temperate to sub tropical climates and require well drained soils with good organic matter content with a pH of between 6.0 and 7.0.

Cultivation practices

Planting. Black carrot seeds can be directly sowed in the garden or started in the nursery and then transplanted after to the main garden. The seeds are planted at a depth of quarter to half inch with an intra row spacing of 2 inches and inter row spacing of 12 to 18 inches.

Watering. Provide consistent moisture to the growing plants and avoid over watering as it can lead to root rot. Mulching can help retain soil moisture.

Fertilization. Apply a balanced fertilizer before planting and consider adding compost or organic matter to improve soil fertility.

Management practices

Weeding and thinning. Regularly weed the carrot garden to prevent competition for nutrients and space.

Thin the plants to about 2 to 4 inches apart when they reach a height of about 3 inches.

pest and disease management. Common pests and diseases that affect carrots include aphids, carrot flies and leaf spot. Employ appropriate pest control methods like neem oil or pesticides.

Harvesting. Black carrots are typically ready for harvest 70 to 80 days after planting. You can harvest them when they reach the desired size and color.