

Chinese cabbage farming

Chinese cabbage has mild flavor, crispy texture and high nutrition value. These have made it a common ingredient in many dishes. The crop thrives in temperate climates making it an ideal choice for home gardeners and small scale farmers.

Growth requirements

Site selection. Choose a well drained sunny location. The crops prefers fertile, slightly acidic to neutral soils with good water retention. Areas with poor drainage or excessive wind exposure should be avoided.

Soil preparation. Prepare the soil by tilling it to a depth of about 6 to 8 inches. Incorporate compost or well rotted organic matter to improve soil fertility and structure.

Seed selection and sowing. Select good quality seeds from a reputable source. The seeds can first be sprouted in a nursery or directly planted in the field. In the field, Chinese cabbage is planted at a spacing of between 6 to 8 inches.

Field management practices

Watering and fertilization. Keep the soils consistently moist but not water logged. Apply a balanced fertilizer or compost every 2 to 3 weeks to provide essential nutrients for healthy growth.

Thinning and harvesting. Thin the plants if necessary to allow for proper air circulation and prevent over crowding. Harvesting can be done when the leaves are tender and about 6 to 8 inches tall usually about 45 to 60 days after planting.