

# How and why to Direct/manage Young growing watermelon vines at Vegetative stage.

This strategic direction allows the vines to set flowers and develop fruits without any hindrance or unnecessary distance. By ensuring the vines are properly guided to the main bed, you can promote optimal pollination and fruit production, maximizing the yield of your watermelon crop.

## Crop management

Crop management is crucial in watermelon cultivation, including the proper direction of vines. It's important to guide the vines towards the source of water, as water availability significantly impacts plant growth.

When implementing irrigation, especially through furrows, it is advisable to direct the water in a way that avoids flooding the vines during watering. This helps prevent fungal diseases and keeps the plants clean. Additionally, directing the vines creates space for efficient water and fertilizer application. However, it is essential to ensure that the vines are long enough to be directed without breaking them. If the vines are resistant to direction, you can use bends or stones to hold them in place. Placing the stone at the edge of the leaf prevents blocking the passage of nutrients to other parts of the leaf. Once the vines are properly directed, they will continue to grow and spread on their own, and at that point, the stone can be removed.

By effectively managing the direction of watermelon vines, you can optimize their growth and ensure efficient water and nutrient distribution throughout the crop.