

# How to prune and hand pollinate eggplants

As part of agronomic and management practices pruning and hand pollinating of eggplants by farmers increases on the quality and quantity which improve on their economic statuses.

Pruning is done to improve crop productivity and it is mainly done by removing the centred growing shoots to encourage light and air circulation. This reduces on the photo competition by the growing shoots of the plant.

## Eggplant pruning

When pruning, leave only 4 stalks maximum to avoid reduction of fruit quality, quantity and plant health. Leave on pollinated flowers on plant and provide supporters to the shoots/stalks of plant and remove all leaves that grow below the cross of the plant for easy weeding and fertilization of the plant.

Additionally, supporting strings should be loose to prevent breaking of suckers in case of heavy wind or rains.

## Crop pollination

Hand pollinate by making male stamen pore pollen on the female part. This helps in productivity of the plant. Best time for pollination is during morning.

Finally, feed the plant on mineral fertilizer and micro nutrients.