

## RASPBERRY CULTIVATION

**SOIL:**Sandy loam soils are most desirable. Soil should have good moisture holding capacity and good drainage. The plant can not tolerate free standing water.Soils with hard pan or compact should be avoided completely.

Do not plant Raspberries in soils formerly used to grow potatoes, tomatoes, hot peppers and eggplants. Because the fungal and viral diseases that attack these crops also attack Raspberries.

**EXPOSURE:** Protection by windbreaks is advisable in exposed areas as winds are drying and damage fruiting stocks.

**SOIL PREPARATION:** (Before planting)

1. Add organic matter (25 Tonnes per hectare)
2. Pulverize (disk plough) the soil just before planting.
3. Control perennial weeds
4. Fumigate the soil with Furadon/Phorate to control nematodes.
5. Apply fertilizer

**PLANTING :**

**Spacing:** Hill system: 120 X 180. Hill 45cm width hill  
Row system: 90 X 180 to 240 cm, row width 45 cm.

**Upon arrival:**

Unwrap plants and examine the roots.  
If dried out soak in water for 2-4 hours.  
Make sure roots do not dry out during planting.  
Do not expose roots to wind and sun.

**Planting:**

Plant slightly deeper than grown in nursery (5 cm deeper than they were in the nursery) partly cover the roots , and firm soil around the roots.  
Irrigate the plants .Always keep adequate moisture in the soil for good growth

**WEED CONTROL:**

Shallow cultivation or mulching will help in curbing weed growth.Possible mulching material include straw, crushed corn cobs,saw dust,wood chips lawn clippings and shredded leaves The depth of mulch needed ranges from 10 to 25 cm depending on the material.Within rows apply enough mulching to control weeds and new canes can emerge.

**FERTILIZERS:** Use ( 10 -20 - 10) or similar fertilizer 1.875 kg per 25 m row or half cup around each plant. Apply about May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**IRRIGATION:** Irrigation is given by drip method or sprinkler method. With sprinkler method the water is applied at intervals generally when the soil

reaches 50% available moisture.

#### PRUNING & TRAINING

Tie up canes rather than cutting back.

Thin canes in the spring.

Keep the largest and most vigorous canes (most productive)

After thinning, cut back cane tips and side shoots slightly.

After fruiting, remove canes which have fruited.

HARVESTING: Hand pick properly ripened fruits .