

## Wax gourd growing lesson

### **I. Summary story of growing wax gourd**

The wax gourd is one type of crops that is the easiest to grow in the small scale farming or the big farming. In addition, it is also a type of seasonal calendar crop, can grow every season, it does not prejudice any season.

Notice that when wax gourd is about forty-five days old or fifty-five days old, we can harvest the yield by counting from the first day of growing it. Furthermore, we can be used as vegetable for eating or selling, too.

Wax gourd crop needs from 80 percent to 100 percent of the temperature or sunlight to support its trunk or organism. But, it also needs water and moisture in the morning and in the afternoon, then it grows well and receives the yield quickly. Notice that if there is the rain falling down damply, no need to water it.

One more important point in the dry season is we have to have enough water sources to water the base and root or stunk of wax gourd by being unable to miss.

### **II. The plan of growing wax gourd seed**

To grow the wax gourd crop, we have to have the following plan:

1. There is the budget and technical resources.
2. Choose the land location for growing
3. Hoe or plough and harrow soil and dry it up well about one week before growing
4. There is water source to use enough.
5. The wax gourd seed has good quality.
6. There is the natural fertilizer for using.

7. There is materials involved such as hoes, spades, watering cans, two-handled baskets ( for carrying soil), and energy for drawing, etc.

### **III. Methods or techniques of growing wax gourd**

To grow the wax gourd crop, we have the following techniques:

1. At first hoe or plow and harrow the soil well and dry it up for one week in order to make soil good, not tight, without poison substance, have oxygen current to help root of vegetable growing up.
2. Digging of the each side of the hole is 30 centimetres ( 3 Toeks, measurement of Khmer), as for a hole is 25 centimetres or 30 centimetres in deep (2.5 Toeks or 3 Toeks, measurement of Khmer)
3. Put dried natural fertilizer, at least 2 kg in each hole and then mix together completely.
4. Before growing wax gourd seed, wrap it with cloth and soak it in the water for one night in the ice box with close lid.
5. Bury three seeds in deep 6centimetres (2 finger nodes) in a growing hole after soaking it in the water for one night.
6. Water in the morning and in the afternoon and take care it every day. These are important factors for growing skills.
7. Make trellises for wax gourd growing up (crawling up) when growing in height 4 centimetres from the edge of the hole.
8. In growing from a clump of wax gourd to another one in the row is spaced out 1.2 metres or 1.3 metres (1 metre and 2 Toeks or 1 metre and 3 Toeks, measurement of Khmer).
9. A row chest (path or space for walking) in between in each trellis is spaced out 1.5 metres, it is enough.

**Notice:**

The confirmation for the point of making trellis as follows:

- Building trellis: width= 4 metres, length= 7 or 10 metres, height= 1.5 metres, it is enough.
- The location of growing wax gourd is to avoid the low ground, extreme dampness because of rain or flood.
- Special technique makes wax gourd plenty more fruits:
  - 1) When wax gourd growing up 100 centimetres in height, we must use a knife or scissors to cut 15 centimetres of wax gourd shoot by avoiding its node, this is for cutting in first time.
  - 2) For second time, when wax gourd growing up 35 centimetres, we must to cut it again, and doing is the same way in first time.
- The final important point is to try to take care of wax gourd well, water it, put the organic fertilizer, pull out the grass in order to it grows up, and then it provides us the yield as we wish.