

ALL ABOUT BOTTLEGOURD

IMPORTANCE AND CHARACTERISTICS

Bottle gourd or "upo" is a common vegetable in the Philippines. This vigorous annual climbing vine is easy to grow. The fruit is rich in phosphorus and vitamins. It thrives best in well drained soils rich in organic matter. It is planted from the month of October to as late as December at the end of the wet season.

HOW TO GROW

Plow and harrow the field 2 to 3 times before planting to ensure good tilt. Plant the seeds in rows 3 meters apart, dropping 2 to 3 seeds in hills 2 to 2 ½ meters apart. Water the seeds every day.

Shallow cultivation is necessary before the vines start to develop to keep the soil in good tilt, moist and free from weeds. Provide trellis to hold the vines and fruits. Harvest the fruit when they are still young.

PEST MANAGEMENT

The major diseases of upo are downy and powdery mildew. As a control measure, remove the affected leaves and burn them. Spray the plants with recommended fungicide. Squash leaf beetle and fruit fly are the common insects that attack upo. Dust with wood ash mixed with powder insecticide to control them.

BPI-LBNCRDPSC

VISION

A recognized and leading Research, Development and Production Support Center for lowland vegetables.

MISSION

Generate Crop farming technologies and produce quality seeds of lowland vegetables to ensure sustainable production.

CORE VALUES

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INNOVATIVE
TEAMWORK

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Support Center

BOTTLE GOURD

Upo

(Lagenaria siceraria)

