

ALL ABOUT SQUASH

IMPORTANCE AND USES

Squash is considered as minor crop in most commercial production done in small market gardens. It is also a good source of Vitamin A, iron, phosphorus and calcium. The young shoots can be made into salad. The young fruits and flowers are palatable especially when cooked with other vegetables, fish or meat. The matured fruits are used for making pies, sweets, and doughnuts and can be a substitute to banana and tomato in processing catsup.

SUGGESTED CULTURAL PRACTICES

1. Select a fertile and well-drained soil with pH of 4.3 to 8.7.
2. Plow and harrow the field twice, incorporate burnt rice hull at the rate of 200 sacks/ha
3. Organic and chemical fertilizer will be mixed thoroughly with the soil during planting Fertilizer mixture of 56 kg/ha N, 35 kg/ha P_2O_5 , and 35 kg/ha K_2O will be used to be divided into 3 equal parts, 1st as basal and the 2nd and 3rd parts will be dressed 20 to 30 days from planting, respectively
4. Mulch with rice straw after the last fertilizer application
5. Prune the tip of the main stem to stimulate primary lateral stem to promote formation of secondary vines.
6. Remove the first one or two fruits on the vine to promote the formation of bigger and quality fruits.

PEST CONTROL

During planting, spray or dust the seeds with Sevin to control ants and yellow beetle

HARVESTING

Harvesting is done when the plant show signs of maturity such as appearance of powder or whitish substance on the surface or the fruit skin, when pencil (middle portion) becomes hard, and when the peduncle begins to dry up.

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

SPICE IT!

SERVICE ORIENTED
PROFESSIONALISM
INTEGRITY
COMMITMENT
EXCELLENCE
INNOVATIVE
TEAMWORK

For more information, please contact:

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Los Baños National Crop
Research, Development and Production
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SQUASH

Kalabasa

(Cucurbita maxima)

