

PRODUCT DATA SHEET

Chickpea

Botanical name	Cicer arietinum
Seeding rate	50 seeds/m ² (≈ 80-140 kg/ha, depending on the thousand grain weight and the grain size of the variety)
Distance between rows	30-35 cm
Sowing period	Mid to late May, once there is no longer any risk of frost
Sowing depth	5-8 cm
Sowing method	Combination of seed drill and rotary harrow or precision seed drill



Botany

- Family: Fabaceae (legumes)
- Annual herbaceous plant with growth height of up to 1 metre
- Stem square, erect to horizontal
- Alternate, odd-pinnate leaves (5 to 10 mm)
- Purple-red, violet, pink or white flowers (10 to 12 mm)
- Approximately 3 cm legume with two irregularly shaped seeds that are beige, dark or black in colour

Climate requirements

- Requires warm and sunny climate
- Minimum germination temperature is 5 °C, optimum germination temperature is 25 °C
- Low requirement for moisture; drought-hardy but sensitive to frost and does not do well in excessively wet conditions

Soil requirements

- Favourable sites are calcareous, sandy and loamy soils. Profitable grain yields can even be achieved on dry calcareous soils.
- Does not tolerate compact loamy or clayey soils

Crop rotation

- Chickpea is not autotolerant and has very little compatibility with other legumes; an interval of 5 to 6 years should therefore be maintained

Soil preparation

- Loose, fine and crumbly seedbed

Crop protection

▸ Pea aphid

Control: Insecticide application is useful if the intensity of infestation reaches 15 aphids per main shoot.

▸ Olive-brown pea moth

Control: Braconid wasp and ichneumon fly are natural predators. Ploughing may reduce the intensity of infestation. An interval of at least 5 years should be maintained. In addition, the legumes in each year's crop rotations should be physically as far apart as possible. Broad-range insecticides should be applied only after careful observation of the stand and keeping the conditions in mind.

▸ Pea-leaf weevil

Control: Control is rather difficult due to the wide variety of host plants. Appropriate fertilisation can be useful in strengthening the plant. An interval of at least 5 years should be maintained and the distance between the legume fields should be maximised.

▸ Ascochyta blight:

Control: This disease has the greatest economic impact. An interval of 5 to 6 years should be maintained to control infestation. Use resistant seeds if available.



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Fertilisation

- N application is generally not required due to the presence of nitrogen-fixing rhizobia. However, the nitrogen-fixing ability of the rhizobia is greatly reduced in highly acidic soils.
- Nutrient removal in kg/ha for yields of 2,000 kg/ha:

	Total N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O	MgO
Grain	72	22	28	4
Straw	30	6	52	10
Total	102	28	80	14

Harvest and treatment

- Harvest time: beginning in mid September
- Grain yield: 1,000-2,500 kg/ha
- Harvest using combine harvester
- Subsequent drying may be required depending on maturation



If you have questions, please feel free to contact us!

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