

# Simple steps to manage and succeed in Colour/Greenhouse Capsicum/pepper farming

The next step is choosing the variety subject to the market where the farmer should do their research as different markets demand for different varieties. After planting, the farmer should drench the young seedling, where drenching involves applying chemicals on the stem of the plant to prevent any fungal disease and cutting insects.

The next step is watering and ensuring that there are no dry days as water is the medium of exchange between the soil and the plant. Next is support as green house varieties cannot stand on their own and supporting them helps in fighting pests such as the red spider mites and caterpillar that attack the crop on the lower part of the leaves.

## Agro-inputs

For planting, the farmer should apply the phosphorus based fertilizer which helps the seedling in developing the roots, shoots, and having a healthy stem. In order to achieve the vegetative stage, the farmer has to check on a few nutritional program by using a nitrogenous fertilizer.

After the vegetative stage the crop starts producing flowers and at this stage the farmer moves to the boron zinc fertilizer combined with a calcium fertilizer which strengthens fruit and ensures continuous flower formation. At the fruiting stage, the farmer can increase their calcium and boron zinc application and finally at the fruit ripening stage the farmer comes in with the potassium based fertilizer.

## Pests and diseases

Some of the worst diseases that can attack capsicums are the bacterial wilt and fusarium wilt. After planting the farmer should drench the young seedling, where drenching involves

applying chemicals on the stem of the plant preventing any fungal diseases and cutting insects. Green house varieties cannot stand on their own and supporting them helps in fighting pests such as the red spider mites and caterpillar that attack the crop on the lower part of the leaves.

When the plant starts flowering the farmer should introduce products that will fight thrips because they start attacking the plant at this stage by sucking sap. The thrips cause flower abortion and causing diseases such as tobacco mosaic virus.