

Controlled-Environment Greenhouse



Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Growing Sweet Pepper

Newsletter-August 2002



From the Editor Sweet Pepper, a common greenhouse crop with many species varying in shape, size and colour, can grow all year round in a controlled-environment greenhouse. Red Sweet Pepper is featured here as an example to demonstrate the production technology involved.



Selection of Species



- Greenhouse varieties
- Disease-resistant
- Large and firm fruit, high yield
- Heat-tolerant species should be chosen in summer



Growth Conditions

Temperature : The optimum temperature for germination is 25 ~ 30 °C, for vegetation 20 ~ 25 °C, for flowering and fruiting 18 ~ 27 °C.

Lighting : A daily lighting of at least 10 ~ 12 hours to facilitate flower development but prevent excessive growth of the stem.

Humidity : A relative humidity between 45% and 50% provides the most favourable environment for pollination.



Cultivation Management

Nursery and Planting : Raise seedlings in plug trays and transplant them to the planting medium (sandy loam, moss peat or other medium materials) in the greenhouse when they come into 2 pairs of true leaves. Plant spacing is 30 cm.

Training : To train the plant by the one stem or two stems method and support the stem by the hanging or netting method.

Seedlings



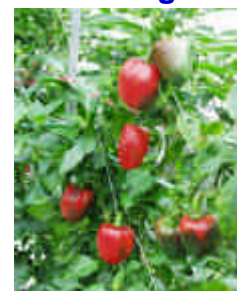
Transplanting



Hanging



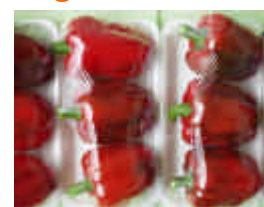
Netting



Application of Fertilizer : Use drip irrigation system to distribute appropriate amount of water and prepared liquid nutrients to the planting medium for absorption by crop.

Harvesting : Start harvesting 9 ~ 10 weeks after transplanting. Pick the fully-coloured fruits which are sold at a premium.

Harvesting



Note : In growing greenhouse sweet pepper, irrigation should be done in a controlled and careful way to keep optimal moisture content in the medium. The pH value of the medium should be maintained at 5.6 ~ 6.7 and the electrical conductivity (EC) at 2.5 ~ 3.5.



Coming Next

Growing Green Cucumber

For more information and visits to greenhouses, please contact :
Crop Development Section, AFCD (Tel :2668 0295)

AFCD Home Page
<http://www.info.gov.hk/afcd>