

# **STAR 9981**

## **WATERMELON**



**STARKE  
AYRES®**

A close-up photograph of a watermelon slice, showing the deep red, juicy flesh and the thin, light-colored rind. The slice is positioned diagonally across the middle of the page. A large green curved shape is on the left side of the image.

### **A SUPER-SEEDLESS, RED-FLESHED TRIPLOID WATERMELON**

- Large, oval and uniform fruit
- Deep red flesh with crisp texture
- Good flavour and high brix
- Good yield and transportability
- Resistant to anthracnose (Co) 1

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**SEEDS OF SUCCESS**

# STAR 9981

## WATERMELON



Type	Hybrid Triploid, red-fleshed, super-seedless watermelon.
Maturity	Main season 86 - 88 days.
Plant Characteristics	A very vigorous plant with healthy leaf cover.
Fruit Characteristics	Large, uniform oval fruit with weight of 6 - 12kg. The rind has a medium green colour with light green stripes. Crisp flesh with deep red colour, good flavour and high brix. The edible, rudimentary, empty white seed coats are medium sized. Environmental stress conditions can however cause the formation of hard seeds.
Disease Resistance	Intermediate resistance to anthracnose (Co) 1.
Climate	Optimum germination temperature: 27°C to 32°C, with night temperature not lower than 24°C. Optimum growth temperatures at night are 18 - 20°C, and day 24 - 30°C, and for ripening 15 - 25°C.
Soil	Best performance is obtained on newly prepared, sandy-loam soils, which are rich in humus and fertilizer, well-drained, with pH (H <sub>2</sub> O) = 5.6 – 6.8. Heavy soils should be avoided.
Plant spacing	4,000 to 8,000 plants per ha
Fertilisation	Approximate nutrient requirements depending on soil type, soil analyses, and crop load; N: 90-170 kg/ha: 30% pre-plant and the balance as two side dressings. P: 15-180 kg/ha: Apply pre-plant and work down to root depth. K: 40-250 kg/ha: 30% pre-plant and the balance as two side dressings, simultaneously with the N-application (eg. KNO <sub>3</sub> ).
Adaptation	STAR 9981 is recommended for main season production.
Pollination	A suitable pollinator must be inter-planted at a recommended ratio of 3:1 in the main season, when the conditions are favourable. In the early season and periods of difficult pollination, it is advisable to plant at a ratio of 2:1. Consult our seedless production guidelines for further information.
Features and Benefits	STAR 9981 fruit is large oval, with uniform shape and size. The flesh has deep red colour, crisp texture, good flavour, and high brix. The excellent fruit quality makes it well suited to fresh-cut, as well as whole fruit markets.

### INDEMNITY

All technical advice and/or production guidelines given by STARKE AYRES or any of its personnel with reference to the use of its products, is based on the company's best judgement. However, it must be expressly understood that STARKE AYRES does not assume responsibility for any advice given or for the results obtained.

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