

VANESSA, VALDORIA & IVONA WATERMELON



**STARKE
AYRES®**



BLACK SKIN, SEEDLESS RED-FLESHED, TRIPLOID WATERMELONS

- Range of 3 sizes, depending on the market
- Round and uniform fruit
- Deep red flesh with firm texture
- Excellent flavour and high brix
- Good yield and transportability

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SEEDS OF SUCCESS



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Type	Hybrid Triploid, red-fleshed, seedless watermelon.
Maturity	Main season 85 - 95 days.
Plant Characteristics	Vigorous plants with healthy leaf cover.
Fruit Characteristics	Uniform round fruit with weight of; VANESSA 2 - 3kg, VALDORIA 3 - 5kg, IVONA 5 - 8kg. The rind has a very dark green colour ("black skin" Sugar Baby rind). Firm flesh with deep red colour, excellent 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	IVONA: Intermediate resistance to Fusarium (Fon) 0
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 ₂ 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 ₃).
Adaptation	VANESSA, VALDORIA and IVONA are 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	IVONA, VALDORIA and VANESSA have round fruit, with uniform shape and size. The flesh has deep red colour, firm texture, excellent flavour, and high brix. Uniformity of fruit size make them well suited to retail as whole fruit, as well as half- and quarter-cuts. The unique rind colour is an attractive contrast to the red flesh.

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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