

Lemon Grass

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Lemon grass is a Aromatic plant. Lemon grass is a tropical perennial plant. The typical Lemony Odour of the essential oil present in the shoot. Lemon grass oil is widely used in perfume industry, soaps, detergents' mosquito cream, Agarbatti etc. Lemon grass oil was a traditional source of citral.

Lemon grass is suitable for almost all types of soil. But cannot tolerate the water Stagnation. The suitable soil Ph is around 6.0. Plantation remains for the period of 4-5 years. Planting material is obtained by dividing the clumps from the old plantation. The divided units are called slips. Before digging out of the clumps, all the leaves should be removed 20-25 cm from the ground.

The best time for plantation June-July. Row to row distance 60 cm and plant to plant distance 45 cm. An average 15000 slips are required for 1 acre land. Some of the lemon grass varieties are Krishna, Kaveri, Sugandhi, Pragathi etc. First harvesting is done from 5-6 months after plantation. After that the crop harvesting is done at the interval of 3-4 harvests are taken in a year. The herbage yield of 10-15 t/ha.

The freshly harvested leaves are taken for the purpose of distillation. Distillation is the unit used for extraction of oil from lemon grass leaves. Steam distillation or water distillation are done for recovery of oil from leaves. Leaves of lemon grass contains 0.8% aromatic oil. Oil content in lemon grass was 0.29% and 0.63% on fresh and dry weight basis respectively. Generally 60-70 kg oil yield per acre.



Lemon Plants



Lemon Slip



Distillation unit



Lemon Oil