



# SWEET CRUNCH

## F1 Hybrid Cucumber

### OUTSTANDING QUALITIES

- ◆ **BEIT ALPHA TYPE**
- ◆ **IDEAL PRE-PACK**
- ◆ **HIGH YIELD POTENTIAL**
- ◆ **BRIGHT, SMOOTH, GLOSSY FRUIT**



**Sweet Crunch** is an early maturing, Beit Alpha type hybrid with a very high yield potential. **Sweet Crunch** has a superior flavour, smooth texture and is ideal as a pre-pack type when picked at 12 - 15 cm length. For the 'gherkin' market, fruit are picked smaller. The fresh, glossy appearance is very attractive. **Sweet Crunch** has intermediate resistance against Downy mildew and Powdery mildew.

### SPECIAL VARIETAL REQUIREMENTS

- Contact area representative for more information

CHARACTERISTIC*	SWEET CRUNCH
KIND	F <sub>1</sub> hybrid cucumber ( <i>Cucumis sativus</i> L.)
TYPE	Beit alpha
FLOWERING TYPE	Gynoecious (Predominantly female flowers)
PRODUCTION TYPE	Open field production
MATURITY	Early
LENGTH	12 - 15 cm
SHAPE	Cylindrical
COLOUR	Glossy green
SEASON	Year round production in frost free areas
SPINE COLOUR	White
SPINE DEGREE	Hardly noticeable
DISEASE REACTION	Intermediate resistance: Downy mildew and Powdery mildew
UNIFORMITY	Very good
AVERAGE SEED COUNT	30 - 40 seeds/g
MARKETS / END USE	Fresh market, pre-pack and gherkin
POPULATION GUIDE	12 000 - 16 000 plants per ha
SPECIAL FEATURES	Excellent disease package

\* Characteristics given are affected by production methods such as soil type, nutrition, planting population, planting date and climatic conditions. Please read disclaimer.

**Disclaimer:** This information is based on our observations and/or information from other sources. As crop performance depends on the interaction between the genetic potential of the seed, its physiological characteristics, and the environment, including management, we give no warranty express or implied, for the performance of crops relative to the information given nor do we accept any liability for any loss, direct or consequential, that may arise from whatsoever cause. Please read the Sakata Seed Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd Conditions of Sale before ordering seed.

**Resistance:** is the ability of a plant variety to restrict the growth and development of a specified pest or pathogen and/or the damage they cause when compared to susceptible plant varieties under similar environmental conditions and pest or pathogen pressure. Resistant varieties may exhibit some disease symptoms or damage under heavy pest or pathogen pressure (HR = High resistance, IR = Intermediate resistance).

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## GENERAL TIPS FOR CUCUMBER PRODUCTION

### **Crooked fruit**

It is common for young cucumber fruit to become crooked. Crooked fruit are not acceptable by the market in general.

#### *Symptoms*

- Development on one side of the fruit is inhibited, leading to bending to various degrees

#### *Causes*

- Extreme fluctuation in temperature and humidity
- High EC
- Disease
- Over bearing
- Water stress
- Heat stress
- Ca and B deficiency
- Thrips damage on the young fruit
- Poor pollination (not applicable to parthenocarpic fruit)

#### *Control*

- Control thrips and disease
- Regulate greenhouse temperature
- Revise fertigation and irrigation programme and apply foliar sprays of Ca and B if required
- Remove some fruit if plants are over loaded

### **Cracking**

#### *Symptoms*

- Longitudinal cracks appear between ribs on - fruit. Cracks can be almost invisible, to large and unattractive

#### *Causes*

- Fluctuation in transpiration rate between day and night caused by low night and high day temperatures

#### *Control*

- Maintain favourable temperatures
- Improve transpiration through ventilation

### **Cold stripes**

#### *Symptoms*

- Yellow or light green strips between ribs

#### *Causes*

- Night temperatures < 13 °C
- Warm days and cold nights
- Unstable RH
- Low B levels

#### *Control*

- Maintain minimum temperature > 15 °C
- Stabilise RH
- Apply foliar B and Ca sprays weekly

### **Blossom end rot (BER)**

#### *Symptoms*

- Resembles a pathological disease at the blossom end, but actually is a physiological disorder due to a Ca deficiency at the blossom-end of a fruit

#### *Causes*

- Low Ca levels
- BER is not caused by any single factor but a combination of one or more factors intensifying the effect, including: high salinity, high Mg, NH<sub>4</sub>, and/or K concentration, inadequate xylem tissue development, accelerated growth rate, unfavourable moisture relationships (high, low, or fluctuating), low soluble soil Ca, high temperature, and high or low transpiration

#### *Control*

- Revise the fertigation programme
- Improve ventilation to improve transpiration
- Apply Ca sprays after cloudy weather

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