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Levanzo RZ growing update

Newsletter 27 September 2008 summer autumn planting



Rijk Zwaan Australia Pty Ltd.
www.rijkszwaan.com

Crop development

The fruit size starts to increase now and in general the quality is very good, the fruits are firm and the green parts are strong. Now the first fruit is off, the plants start to settle again and get in balance.

The fruit of Levanzo is making a lot of size in the last two weeks before picking, therefore be careful with a pre night as effects on fruit size will only be visible shortly before picking.

Prepare the crop for the summer and make sure that the crop has a healthy root system and has enough power to go into the summer. A head diameter of 10 – 11 mm is ideal at this time of the year.

Irrigation

Make sure that the irrigation system is working properly when going to the summer. For this, check the system and make sure drippers and irrigation lines are clean and that the water distribution over the drippers is equal. Also check the pressure of the system and the delivery of the drippers.

At the peak of summer the irrigation system should be able to have the capacity to give an irrigation cycle every 12 to 15 minutes. At these conditions have to be sure that the plant gets the volume it needs and is able to use it. A lot of water in a short time will result in too much drain and not sufficient uptake.

At this time of the year 3 times the light level has to be given. For example at a 1500 Joules day, 4.5 liter per m² has to be given with 13 to 15 irrigation cycles.

In case not enough water is given, the green fruit will turn dark green special with plants in exposed area's like the end of rows and rows at the sides of the greenhouse.

The next Levanzo RZ growing update will be sent in about three weeks time.

Best Regards,

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For more information www.rijkszwaan.com.

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