

Lemongrass

Soil & Climate

Soil

It flourishes on a wide variety of soils ranging from loam to poor laterite with best growth on well-drained sandy-loam soil.

Climate

The ideal elevation for commercial cultivation ranges from sea level to 300m. However in Kerala, it grows well at altitudes between 900 and 1200m, generally on poor soils along with hillslopes.

Lemongrass requires warm and humid climate with sufficient sunshine and rainfall, ranging from 250-300 cm, uniformly distributed throughout the year. In the hilly areas of Kerala receiving heavy rainfall, the plant grows luxuriantly and is harvested more frequently but the oil and citral content are less as compared to the plants growing in the regions of less rainfall.

Temperature range of 10-33°C and sunshine is conducive to the development of oil in the plant.