

# Pineapple

## Planting

### Land Preparation

The soil is brought to a fine tilth by 2-3 ploughing and harrowing. In hilly and dry regions, planting is done in trenches dug 90cm wide, 15-22cm deep and 90cm apart. In coastal regions trenches 90cm wide, 45cm deep and 90cm apart are dug. The trenches are then filled with a mixture of soil and FYM.

### Season of Planting

The best season for planting is in the beginning of winter, however, in the early rains or with irrigation facilities pineapple can be planted at any time of the year.

### Spacing

The following is the spacing required for different plant populations per hectare

Plant Population (per ha)	Distance (cm)		
	Plant-to-plant within a row	Row-to-row	Trench-to-trench
43,500 (N.E. States)	30	60	90
53,300 (Kerela & Karnataka)	25	60	90
63,000 (Bangalore)	22.5	60	75
63,758 (West Bengal )	22.5	45	90

High-density planting, besides increasing the yield, is associated with other advantages like less weed infection, protection to fruits from sunburn, increased production of suckers and slips per unit area and non-lodging of plants. Close planting also saves on the cost of providing shade to fruits, as it provides natural shade through upright orientation of the apical leaves and eventually results in uniformly coloured lustrous fruits.

### Planting Systems

The planting system varies developing upon the topography of land and rainfall. There are four planting systems in practice, viz. flatbed planting, furrow planting trench planting and contour planting.