

Curtis RZ (24-119 RZ)

Curtis RZ is a high level Powdery Mildew Tolerant, generative variety.

Curtis RZ has nicely shaped dark green fruit.

Curtis RZ gives a high production of fruits with good size on the laterals.

Curtis RZ is a high P.M.T. variety suitable for high light environments. Production is best when planted after Feb 15th. Optimal conditions for Curtis RZ are found at the 2nd and 3rd planting opportunities.

Curtis RZ has short internodes on the stem and builds a strong plant below the wire.

Curtis RZ will have an extra leaf or two under the wire but this will be a benefit in an empty greenhouse. When inter-planting the benefit is, even on a stretched plant, there is an extra node under the wire.

The fruit load on the stem should be monitored by the grower, and depends on the light, planting density, cropping technique, and market expectations. Generally leaving a fruit on the 6th internode and alternating every other internode after that should give you size and not slow down the plant too much. Overloading the stem will lead to shorter fruit and may lead to a gap when moving from the stem to lateral cucumbers. On the laterals, Curtis RZ maintains a well balanced fruit load resulting in high quality fruits. It is possible with Curtis RZ to use some newer cropping strategies, like the side-shoot system, to increase the number of medium cucumbers below the wire.

Temperature for Curtis RZ should be fairly steady with a high relative humidity. Below the wire, use a 23C day temperature and a 21 - 22C night temperature. Overall at this time the day-night temperature regime can be relatively flat. Maintain a sufficient 24 hour temperature to keep the speed in the plant to the wire. When flowering on the laterals has begun, lower the night temperature to focus on fruit size and quality. The lateral heads can be pinched around the 7th inter-node. As the laterals fill in, one leaf per week could be removed from the stem to open up the crop resulting in easier picking and better air movement. It is up to the grower to determine how open the crop needs to be.

Curtis RZ is a good variety for inter-planting because of its growth habit. Ensure there is enough light for the developing plant, and focus on root zone development through the use of a minimum pipe. Leave the first fruit on the 6th internode and don't leave the old crop in for too long. The EC should be kept quite high to build a strong plant at an early stage. Focus the EC and watering on the new plant and not the old one.