Eggplant

Variety	Season	Comments
Dusky	Extra-early	Good but low yielding because of small fruit size
Classic	Early	Long, slim, tapered
Epic	Early	Oval
Ichiban	Early	Long, slender, "oriental" type
Kiko	Early Main	Holds color in fall
Caspar	Main	White, cylindrical
Rosita	Main	Lavender, long, cylindrical

Fertilizing

Lime: To maintain a soil pH of 6.0 to 6.8.

Preplant: N, 60 lb. per acre if soil organic matter less than 3%, 40 lb. per acre if soil organic matter greater than 3% or if following soybeans; P_2O_5, 0 to 200 lb. per acre; K_2O, 0 to 200 lb. per acre. Adjust according to soil type, previous management, and soil test results for your state. Set each plant with 1 cup (8 oz.) of starter solution. See p. 3 for fertilizer type suggestions. If the transplant flat receives a heavy fertilizer feeding just prior to setting, the starter solution can be eliminated.

Sidedress N: Apply 40 to 60 lb. N per acre to either side of the row when flowers appear. If using the plastic mulch system, the sidedressing can be eliminated because the mulch reduces leaching losses of N and increases early uptake of N, P, and K. If following soybeans or a legume sod, the sidedressing is not needed if rainfall is normal.

Spacing

Rows: 3 to 5 ft. apart. Plants: 2 to 3 ft. apart in a row.

Growing Transplants and Transplanting

The best transplants are fairly large, slightly hardened, 8 to 10 wks. old plants grown in 2 in. or larger pots. Optimum temperatures for growing the plants in the greenhouse are 70 to 75°F. A few days at 60 to 65°F are sufficient for hardening. Set plants in the field when frost danger has passed, when the soil has warmed, and when the average daily temperature reaches 65°F.

Eggplants are very responsive to the use of plastic mulches in the Midwest. Black plastic is recommended because no herbicides are available for use with clear plastic. Clear plastic is preferred for earliness and could be tried with soil fumigation (see Soil Treatment for Disease and Nematode Control, page 43); however, some weeds will tend to grow under clear plastic when heavier soils are fumigated.

Diseases Controlled	Treatment	Comments
Verticillium wilt	Avoid fields with a history of Verticillium wilt. Rotate with small grains where possible.	Use of long rotations out of solanaceous crops will prevent rapid increase of pathogen populations.
	Fumigate with Vapam (60 gal. per acre) under plastic mulch.	Allow at least 30 days between application of fumigant and transplanting.

HERBICIDE*	TREATMENT**	COMMENTS
PREEMERGENCE		
Dacthal 75WP	8 lb. per acre on light-colored soils (less than 1.5% organic matter), 14 lb. on darker colored soils in at least 50 gal. water per acre.	Apply 4-6 wks. after transplanting. Can be sprayed directly over the transplants. Cultivate and remove all weeds before making application.
Devrinol 50DF	2 lb. per acre on light soil (less than 2% organic matter) and 4 lb. per acre on other soils.	Apply before transplanting. Incorporate 1 to 2 in. Prior to planting succeeding crops, a deep moldboard or disc plowing must be done. Do not seed alfalfa, small grains, sorghum, corn, or lettuce for 12 months.
Prefar 4E	5 qt. per acre on light-colored sandy soils (less than 1% organic matter), 6 qt. on other soils.	Apply before planting and incorporate 1-2 inches.
Trifluralin (4 lb./gal.)	1 to 1.5 pt. per acre.	Apply and incorporate before transplanting, or apply directed spray between rows after transplanting and incorporate. Marginal crop tolerance.
POSTEMERGENCE		
Poast 1.5E	1 to 1.5 pt. per acre plus 1 qt. COC per acre.	Apply to actively growing grass. Maximum of 4.5 pt. per acre per season. 20 day PHI.
Select 2EC	6 to 8 fl. oz. for annual grasses; 8 fl. oz. for perennial grasses; plus 1 qt. COC per 25 gal. spray solution (1% v/v).	Apply to actively growing grasses. Wait at least 14 days between applications. Maximum 32 fl. oz. per season. 20 day PHI.
NON-SELECTIVE HERBICIDES		
paraquat	1.6 to 3.2 pt. per acre of 2.5L or 1.3 to 2.7 pt. per acre of 3L plus 1 qt. COC or 4 to 8 fl. oz. nonionic surfactant per 25 gal. spray solution.	Apply to emerged weeds before transplanting, or apply the lowest rate as a directed spray to emerged weeds between crop rows. Do not allow spray to drift onto crop. RUP. 30 day PHI.

* For specific weeds controlled by each herbicide, check table on page 29.
** Rates given are for overall coverage. For band treatment, reduce amounts according to the portion of acre treated.

HERBICIDE*	TREATMENT**	COMMENTS
NON-SELECTIVE HERBICIDES (cont.)		
Glyphosate	0.75 to 1.1 lb. acid equivalent (ae) per acre, equivalent to: 32 to 48 fl. oz. of 3 lb. ae/gal.; 24 to 36 fl. oz. of 4 lb. ae/gal.; 1.2 to 1.8 lb. of 64.9% ae WSG.	Some formulations permit spot spray application - check label. Apply to emerged weeds before planting the crop. Wait 3 days before planting.These rates are for annual weeds at application volumes of 10-40 gal. per acre. See label for rates at lower application volumes, for perennial weeds, and suggested adjuvants.

* For specific weeds controlled by each herbicide, check table on page 29.
** Rates given are for overall coverage. For band treatment, reduce amounts according to the portion of acre treated.

INSECTS CONTROLLED	TREATMENT	COMMENTS
Flea Beetles **Thresholds** <3 inches - 2/plant 3-6 inches - 4/plant >6 inches - 8/plant	Sevin 80SP at 1.25 lb., or XLR Plus at 1 qt. per acre.	3 day PHI.
	OR	
	Capture 2EC at 2.1 to 6.4 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 12.8 fl. oz. per acre per season. 7 day PHI.
	OR	
	Ambush 2EC at 6.4 to 12.8 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 2 lb. a.i. per acre per season. 3 day PHI.
	OR	
	Pounce 3.2EC at 4 to 8 fl. oz. or 25WP at 6.4 to 12.8 oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 2 lb. a.i. per acre per season. 3 day PHI.
	OR	
	Methoxychlor 2 EC at 1 to 3 pts. per acre.	7 day PHI. 1 day PHI if 1 pt. rate is used.
	OR	
	Actara 25WDG at 2 to 3 oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 8 oz. per acre per season. 0 day PHI.
	OR	
	Mustang at 2.4 to 4.3 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 25.6 fl. oz. per acre per season. 1 day PHI.
Colorado potato beetle, European corn borer	Crop Rotation.	**For Colorado potato beetle only**. Plant as far as possible from last year's potato or eggplant fields to reduce damage.
	Scouting.	Regular (weekly) scouting will allow you to determine the need for and improve timing of insecticides.

INSECTS CONTROLLED	TREATMENT	COMMENTS
Colorado potato beetle, European corn borer (cont.)	Provado 1.6F at 3.75 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 18.75 fl. oz. per acre per season. Allow 5 days between applications. 0 day PHI.
	OR	
	Admire 2F at 16 to 32 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 0.5 lb. a.i. of Admire or Provado per acre per season. 21 day PHI for soil application.
	OR	
	Platinum 2SC at 5 to 8 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 8.0 fl. oz. per acre per season. 30 day PHI.
	OR	
	SpinTor 2 SC at 2.25 to 8 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 29 fl. oz. per acre per season. Observe resistance management restrictions. 1 day PHI.
	OR	
	Asana XL at 5.8 to 9.6 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not apply more than 0.35 lb. a.i. per acre per season. 7 day PHI.
	OR	
	Ambush 2EC at 6.4 to 12.8 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 2 lb. a.i. per acre per season. 3 day PHI.
	OR	
	Pounce 3.2EC at 4 to 8 fl. oz. or 25WP at 6.4 to 12.8 oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 2 lb. a.i. per acre per season. 3 day PHI.
	OR	
	Capture 2EC at 2.1 to 6.4 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 12.8 fl. oz. per acre per season. 7 day PHI.
	OR	
	Thiodan 50WP at 1 lb. or 3EC at 0.67 to 1.3 qt. per acre.	Should also control aphids. Do not apply more than 1 lb. a.i. per acre per season. 1 day PHI.
	OR	
	M-Trak at 1.5 to 4.0 qt. per acre, or Novodor at 1.0 to 4.0 qt. per acre.	*Bacillus thuringiensis* based insecticides. **Colorado potato beetles only.** Only controls small larvae. 0 day PHI.
	OR	
	Actara 25WDG at 2 to 3 oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 8 oz. per acre per season. 0 day PHI. **Colorado potato beetles only.**
	Intrepid 2F at 4 to 16 fl. oz. per acre.	**European corn borer only.** Do not exceed 64 fl. oz. per acre per season. 1 day PHI.
	OR	
	Mustang at 2.4 to 4.3 fl. oz per acre.	Do not exceed 25.6 fl. oz. per acre per season. 1 day PHI.

Thresholds - Colorado Potato Beetles

<6 inches - 2 small larvae or
1 large larva or
1 adult per plant
>6 inches - 4 small larvae or
2 large larvae or
2 adults per plant

INSECTS CONTROLLED	TREATMENT	COMMENTS
Aphids	Conserve natural enemies.	Limiting the use of some insecticides will conserve predators and parasites that help control aphid populations.
	Provado 1.6F at 3.75 fl. oz. per acre.	Do not apply more than 18.75 fl. oz. per acre per season. Allow 5 days between applications. 0 day PHI.
	OR	
	Metasystox-R at 2 pt. per acre.	Do not apply more than 3 times per season. Should also control mites. 7 day PHI.
	OR	
	M-Pede at 1 to 2% by volume.	Must contact aphids to be effective. 0 day PHI.
	OR	
	Lannate LV at 1 to 3 pt. per acre, or Lannate 90SP at 0.5 to 1 lb. per acre.	5 day PHI.
	OR	
	Malathion according to label directions.	3 day PHI.
	OR	
	Thiodan 3EC at 1.33 qt. per acre.	1 day PHI.
	OR	
	Actara 25 WDG at 2 to 3 oz. per acre.	Do not exceed 8 oz. per acre per season. 0 day PHI.
	OR	
	Fulfill 50 WDG at 2.75 oz. per acre.	0 day PHI. Do not exceed 5.5 oz. per acre per season.