## **PRODUCTION GUIDE**

# **THAI EGGPLANT** SOLANUM MELONGENA

These golf ball-sized, green eggplants grow on compact, productive plants throughout Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, and Cambodia. The fruit is generally quartered or halved, stewed in curries, slivered, and eaten raw in salads.



#### SEEDING .

- Seeds can be found at True Leaf Market. Scan the QR code to view and purchase.
- Greenhouse Start Date: February 27
- 20 Blocker Soil Blocks (handheld, ¾")
- Up pot to (17% "x 134")12 soil blocker by March 5
- Water twice per day



- Space 16 inches apart in a single row, two rows per bed
- Use 12-inch-spaced drip irrigation, 2-3 times per week

beetle pressure in the midwest

- Plant into Bio360 mulch or straw mulch, up to first leaf set
  Plants should be covered for the first month to avoid flea
- May 20th

Plant in Field:

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### HARVESTING \_

- Harvest in 78 days, once the fruit is mostly pale green with a white bottom, 2-3 inches in diameter, and firm when gently squeezed
- Harvest with snips at the end of the fruit stem, cutting where the stem meets the plant. Stem can be trimmed afterwards for better storage

#### – WASHING + PACKING ———

Place fruits in a single layer on wash table to reduce bruising, spray thoroughly, and turn fruits periodically to ensure proper cleanliness. Leave the fruit to air-dry. If fruits aren't dirty, washing is optional. Store fruit in a covered container, packaged or bulk

Once washed and packed Thai eggplants should be stored in a cooler at 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

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