Okra farming

Okra is a warm season crop that thrives in tropical and sub tropical environments. Okra is rich in nutrients like potassium, vitamin C and fiber. To grow okra, choose a sunny location with well draining soils. The soils should have a pH of between 6.0 to 7.0 which is acidic to neutral.

Cultivation practices

Clear the land of any debris or weeds. Till the land to depth of about 8 to 10 inches to improve its structure. Add well rotted manure like compost or farm yard manure to enhance its fertility.
Planting. Okra can be grown directly from seed or seedlings. If sowing from seed, create furrows that are 1 inch deep and plant seeds at a spacing of 4 to 6 inches. For transplanting seedlings, space them at a distance of 12 to 18 inches apart in rows.
Watering. Okra requires regular and consistent watering especially during the dry season. Irrigate the crop at least twice a week.

Management practices

Fertilization. Apply balanced fertilizer containing Nitrogen, phosphorous nd potassium.
Weed and pest management. Regularly remove weeds to prevent competition for nutrients and water, and regularly monitor the crop for common pests like aphids, fruit borers and white flies.
Harvesting. Harvest the pods when they are about 3 to 4 inches long and tender using a sharp knife.