

# **What to use to Manage watermelon plants and fruits during rains to avoid the losses I made**

After getting rid of the weeds, the farmer should now come in with curative and protective fungicide which prevents attack by fungal diseases. The farmer can also use a product such as Ridomil to prevent fungal attacks and blue copper which protects melons during the rainy season. The farmer then needs to come in with pesticides that protect the watermelons from pests such as beetles and melon flies. During the rainy season, the farmer should make sure the fruits are not in contact with flooding water as this will lead to fruit rot. The farmer should then go in with a calcium boron fertilizer where the calcium prevents the fruits from bursting because of the excess water while the boron increases the rate of flowering.

## **Pests and diseases**

When it rains, pests like melon flies and beetles are not much of a bother as they are suppressed by the rain making them inactive. However, the farmer needs to come in with pesticides that protect the watermelons just in case. Weeding helps the farmer fight fungal diseases such as late and early blight. During the rainy season, the farmer should make sure the fruits are not in contact with flooding water as this will lead to fruit rot which is a fungal disease that comes from the soil attacking the fruit.

## **Agro inputs**

After weeding, the farmer should come in with curative and protective fungicide which prevents attack by fungal diseases such as late and early blight. The farmer can also use a

product with Mancozeb and Metalaxyl such as Ridomil to prevent fungal attacks and blue copper which protects both young and old melons during the rainy season. A good example of a good systematic product that kills pests immediately they come into contact with it is Imidacloprid.

The farmer should then go in with a calcium boron fertilizer which allows the young watermelon to be more energetic, develop strong cellular walls, and prevent the fruit from bursting. The farmer also needs a copper-based product or a macronutrient of foliar which increases the immunity of the watermelons. Using trace elements that contain copper and magnesium helps in the process of photosynthesis which is very key to the plant.