SOIL TYPE

Pineapple is usually planted on the coastal clays or white sands on the Linden Highway. These soils have issues of Acidity, Calcium shortage, Aluminum and Iron toxicity, and in the case of the clay soils, drainage and compaction issues. For pineapple the pH of the soil is just about the lower limit that pineapple can tolerate. However it would be best to incorporate 300 to 500 lbs of limestone per acre to provide a significant portion of the Calcium needs.

LAND PREPARATION

Normal ploughing and harrowing should be done on the clay soils. Drains are valuable since pineapple is affected by waterlogging, although many farmers do not make drains.

If planting on white sands drains are not necessary. Ploughing and harrowing may or may not be necessary. The main objective would be to clear the area of unwanted vegetation. If vegetation is low and sparse an application of **RIDOUT** or **GLYCARE** with **METSULFURON** may be all that is needed.

Weed control is a major issue because the crop remains a long time in the field and does not form a closed canopy. Fortunately, pineapple is tolerant of many herbicides. Before planting an application of **DIUCARE** and **MOCASSIN** can be made.

SPACING

Generally pineapple is planted in double rows, about 18 to 24 inches apart, with plants 12 inches apart within each row. A space 36 inches wide is left between the double rows for husbandry operations like spraying, fertilizing or harvesting.

IRRIGATION

Pineapple would respond well to irrigation, which would increase weight and quality and decrease the time to harvest, probably by up to 3 months.

It is possible to grow pineapple without irrigation because, unlike most crop plants, pineapple can conserve water within its tissues by closing the stomata, much like a cactus.

WEED CONTROL

Weed control at land preparation has already been mentioned. For weed control during the crop **DIURON** may be used again, but it is better for resistance management to use **FUSIL** or **SELECT** for grass weeds. **FUSIL** and **SELECT** may be rotated to manage resistance.

CARZONE can be used if there are broadleaf weeds especially on the sands. **LIFELINE** or **CARISTA** can be used carefully between plants.

FERTILIZER

Pineapple responds exceptionally well to foliar fertilizers, in fact, between 50% and 80% of fertilizers should be applied as foliar. In addition to normal absorption through stomata and other openings in the leaf, water is trapped in the leaves and is absorbed in the leaf axils. This is the reason why farmers "shock" the plant with a foliar sprat of urea.

At planting, 10gm of 15-15-15 or high phosphate **ELIXIR** fertilizer should be applied per plant. A drench of **AGRICAL** should also be applied since calcium is deficient in Guyana soils.

During the vegetative stage 15gm of **ELXIR 15-15-15** or **12-12-17** should be applied to each plant every 2 to 3 months.

A foliar fertilizer should be applied every 3 to 4 weeks. Alternate an application of **CALMAX** and **BIO 20** with an application of **CALMAX** and **PHORTIFY** or an application of **Quad 14**. This would provide phosphonate for disease control, NPK, and calcium.

Flower induction should be done at about 12 months, once the plant is of suitable size. From this stage to harvest 15gm of **ELIXIR 7-21-21** or **MOP** should be applied every 2 to 3 months. A foliar fertilizer should be applied every 3 to 4 weeks of **CALMAX** and **PHORTIFY**, alternating with **K41**.

QUALITY PRODUCTS. EXPERT ADVICE.
Your Partner in Successful Farming.

Caribbean chemicals
GUYANA LIMITED

"WE SERVE YOUR GROWING NEEDS"

PRODUCTION GUIDE:
PINEAPPLE



45 Croal Street, Stabroek, G/Town, Guyana
+592-225-4178
exec.guy@caribbeanchem.com
caribbeanchemicals.co.gy

PEST AND DISEASE PROBLEMS

MEALEYBUGS

These insects cause the red color n the leaves and fruit. They can be controlled by **CAPRID, PROTECTOR, DINOTEFURON, SECURE,** or **CURE.** To control the egg sand young stages use **ADVANCE 10.**

MITES

Mites also cause the red color n the leaves and fruit. They can be controlled by **SECURE, DIAFENTHIURON** or **CURE.** To control the egg sand young stages use **AZTEZ.**

GUMMOSIS

This manifests as a gummy substance caused by Phytopthora. Best controlled by **PHORTIFY, QUAD 14, SHIELD, PILOT** or **ACROBAT.**

ROOT ROTS

This may occur on clay soils during the wet season. Drench with **SHIELD** and **RYZO 500.**



PEST CONTROL PROGRAM

Pre plant	Diucare Mocassin	1Kg/acre 1Lt/acre
At planting drench	Shield Ryzo 500	15ml/gal 15gm/gal
Fertilize	Elixir 15-15-15	10gm/plant
Every 2 months before induction	Elixir 15-15-15	15gm/plant
Every 3 weeks before induction	**Calmax Gold** 15ml/gal **Bio 20** 15ml/gal **Secure** 5ml/gal **Pilot** 10gm/gal **Advance** 10ml/gal **Nufilm** 2ml/gal	**Alternate with** **Calmax Gold** 15ml/gal **Phortify** 15/ml/gal (or Quad 14) (20ml/gal) **Protector** 5ml/gal **Aztez** 10ml/gal **Breakthru** 1ml/gal
Every 2 months after induction	Elixir 7-21-21 Or MOP	15gm/plant 15gm/plant
Every 3 weeks after induction	**Calmax Gold** 15ml/gal **K41** 15ml/gal **Secure** 5ml/gal **Pilot** 10gm/gal **Advance** 10ml/gal **Nufilm** 2ml/gal	**Alternate with** **Calmax Gold** 15ml/gal **Phortify** 15/ml/gal (or Quad 14) (20ml/gal) **Protector** 5ml/gal **Aztez** 10ml/gal **Breakthru** 1ml/gal