

DRIP YOUR WAY TO VEGETABLE PRODUCTION SUCCESS



NETAFIM KNOWLEDGE

Veggie Irrigation Tips:

- Know your soil – dig and evaluate a profile pit.
- Use quality irrigation equipment only.
- Do not guess how long you should irrigate.
- Select irrigation equipment suited to your needs
- Know your crop's water demand and growth potential.
- Collect updated weather data and adapt irrigation scheduling accordingly.
- Ask an expert - the Netafim team and dealers can support you with the right knowledge.

Precision Vegetable Irrigation

Precision irrigation delivers the correct amount of food and water to the plant at the correct time and in the right place as efficiently as possible. **It provides both the control and the flexibility needed to ensure that each plant receives the exact amount of water and fertilizer it needs. This will allow you to maintain balance between vegetative growth and productivity - an extremely important aspect of vegetable production.**

Although certain irrigation systems offer higher water-use efficiency than other systems, a certain level of precision can be achieved with any irrigation system. **The key is to install the right irrigation system for the circumstances and to manage this system correctly, including informed scheduling and diligent maintenance.** This will ensure the highest possible efficiency relevant to your resources and circumstances.

Vegetables and Drip Irrigation

Drip irrigation has proven itself to be the most efficient irrigation method and is suitable to most crops. More and more vegetable farmers are turning to this method of irrigation to increase vegetable yield quality and quantity. It may however seem like a too advanced solution for a short-term cash crop, but the fact is that there are perfectly suited drip irrigation solutions.

Benefits of drip irrigation on vegetable crops:

- Optimal root zone management.
- Lower water and fertilizer use
- Access to the root zone despite groundcovers.
- Lower risk of crop diseases.
- Full utilisation of available land.
- Optimal growth in challenging soil.
- Minimised evaporation loss.
- Ability to better manage plant nutrition through fertigation.

The Right Product

It is easy to be deterred by the cost of the some drip irrigation solutions. We must however remember that irrigation equipment cost is a sliding scale determined by a host of factors. A comprehensive portfolio of drippers and driplines that cover a wide range of crops and applications is available. Dripper and dripline selection take into account a variety of factors, each of which is an attribute that the irrigation designer or farmer must deem necessary for the crop and circumstances or not. The purpose being to maintain a balance between dripper cost and performance.

The question is: what does your crop need and what do your circumstances allow?

Thin Wall Driplines for Thicker Wallets

Thin wall driplines are defined as driplines with a wall thickness of 0.4 mm or less. The selection of suitable wall thickness for the driplines to be installed, will be influenced by a variety of factors. The farmer and irrigation designer must, based on the operative and economic considerations, decide on the best dripper and associated wall thickness for the job. Thin wall driplines are specifically aimed to be used for one to three seasons on vegetables and certain field cash crops. These driplines are also perfectly suited for temporary installation for strip wetting for germination.

Advantages of single season use of thin wall driplines include:

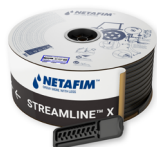
- Lower rand per hectare input cost.
- Start every season with new dripline, lowering the chance of pathogen spread and ensuring optimal dripline function.
- Water quality limits may be relaxed somewhat, as the drippers only need to last a single season.
- Lower operational cost as very less maintenance is required.
- Can be recycled.

If the attributes of advanced heavy wall driplines aimed at multi-seasonal use is more than your crop needs and your circumstances allow, these driplines become a waste of money and labour. Thin wall driplines can lead to significant cost savings when some attributes are no longer crucial. It is however important not to deviate from quality when moving to the lower range of drippers and driplines. Choose quality, but choose a dripline suited to your needs.

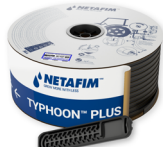
Our Precision Offer

Netafim offers a wide range of driplines and complementary products suitable to precision vegetable irrigation.

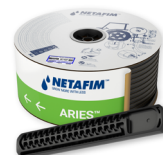
STREAMLINE™ X
THIN WALL DRIPLINE
1.05, 1.1 & 1.6 l/h



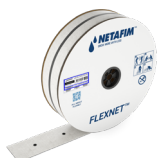
TYPHOON™ PLUS
THIN WALL DRIPLINE
1.0 & 1.6 l/h



ARIES™
HEAVY & MEDIUM WALL DRIPLINE
1.0, 1.5, 2.0 l/h ...



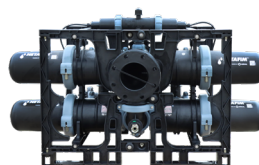
FLEXNET™
PORTABLE FLEXIBLE PIPES



CONTROL VALVES



ALPHADISC™
DISC FILTERS



NUTRIDOSER
FERTIGATION UNITS



Ask your nearest Netafim dealer or the Netafim Technical Advisor in your area about these and other products.