



May

"Every flower is a soul blossoming in nature."
Gérard de Nerval



QUIZ!

Watermelon

The Secrets of Watermelon and the Environment!

1) How long does it take for a watermelon to ripen after being planted?

- A) A few days.
- B) A few weeks.
- C) A few months.


2) Why is watermelon important for the environment?

- A) It's the favorite fruit of most insects.
- B) It helps improve soil quality with its leaves and branches.
- C) It provides shade and shelter for small animals and insects.

3) Which part of the watermelon can you use to grow a new plant?

- A) The fruit.
- B) The seed.
- C) The leaf.

Learning About Watermelon Growth! For a watermelon plant to thrive, it needs:



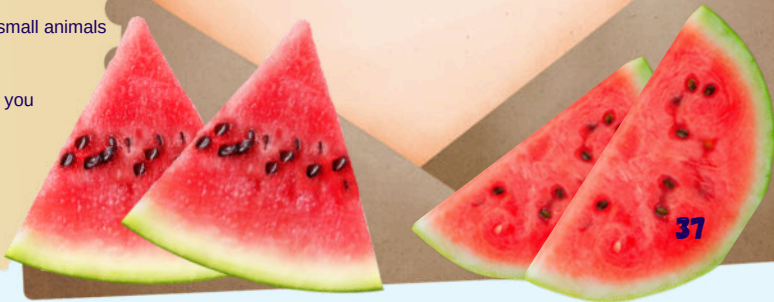
Light: Watermelons require at least 6-8 hours of direct sunlight daily, which is easily available during Cyprus's sunny days.

Soil: They prefer well-drained, nutrient-rich soil with a pH of around 6.0-6.8. Cypriot soils can be enriched with compost for better growth.

Water: Watermelons need deep, less frequent watering to encourage deep root growth. In Cyprus, watering should be done early in the morning or late in the afternoon to reduce evaporation.

Fertilization: Watermelons require nutrient-rich soil for growth and fruit production. Natural fertilizers can be used to enrich the soil.

Temperature: Watermelons grow best in temperatures between 20°C and 30°C. Cyprus's warm summer temperatures are ideal for watermelon cultivation.



Tip!

Plant flowers and shrubs in your garden to provide food and shelter for migratory birds and butterflies.

Learn About the Different Types of Watermelon!

There are many types of watermelon around the world! Here are some of the main varieties you can find that are suitable for cultivation in Cyprus:

Crimson Sweet Watermelon:

These watermelons are large and have a sweet flavor. They have a dark green color with light stripes and thrive in Cyprus's climate.

Sugar Baby Watermelon:

Small with an intensely sweet taste, these watermelons are ideal for small gardens and limited-space growing, which is useful for smaller Cypriot yards.

Jubilee Watermelon:

Long and large, with yellow stripes on a green background, Jubilee watermelons are known for their excellent flavor and resilience in Cyprus's warm climate.

Charleston Gray Watermelon:

Large and oblong with a gray-green color, these watermelons have sweet, crunchy flesh and adapt well to Cyprus's climate conditions.

Yellow Flesh Watermelon:

These watermelons have yellow flesh instead of red, offering a unique flavor and adding variety to summer fruits. They thrive in Cyprus's sunny days.

These varieties are perfect for Cyprus's warm growing conditions!

Endemic Plant of Cyprus



Spanish Broom (*Spartium junceum*)
Information: The Spanish broom is a shrub with yellow flowers that blooms in the spring.



Endemic Animal of Cyprus



Cyprus Hare (*Lepus europaeus cyprius*)
Information: The Cyprus hare is a mammal that primarily lives in plains and forests.