Micro Greens Yield Trial 2017

7030 E 46th Avenue Dr, Denver, CO 80216, United States
support@hensleyseeds.com | hensleyseeds.com

Micro Greens Yield Trial: Comparison Chart for 29 Popular Varieties

How much seed do I need to sow per 1020 tray? How much will it yield? These are two of the questions growers frequently ask. Use the following data from the source yield study as a starting place for calculating potential yield.[1] Note that although the weights of seed sown in the trial were measured in grams to allow for precision and accuracy, we present the yield data here in ounces because the finished crop is typically sold in ounces and pounds.

Part #	Variety	Avg. Seed/Tray (g)	Approx. Flats/Oz. of seed	Avg. Yield/Tray (Oz.)	Avg. Days to Maturity
HSC-MIC-019	Beet, Bull's Blood	23	1	7.5	17
_____	Chard, Bright Lights	31.5	1	9.5	16.5
HSC-MIC-042	Cilantro	26	1	6	20
HSC-MIC-097	Radish, Hong Vit	28.5	1	11.5	9.5
_____	Radish, Red Arrow	24.5	1	10	8
2155MG	Radish, Daikon OG	22.5	1	8	8
HSC-MIC-040	Tokyo Bekana	14	2	15	10
2290MG	Broccoli OG	13	2.5	11.5	12.5
HSC-MIC-105	Shiso, Britton	11.5	2.5	6.5	16
HSC-MIC-072	Mild Micro Mix	11	2.5	11.5	13.5
HSC-MIC-030	Cabbage, Red	10.5	3	8.5	13.5
_____	Rosie	10.5	3	11	13
HSC-MIC-091	Pac Choi, Red Pac	10.5	3	10	13
HSC-MIC-047	Cress, Cressida OG	10.5	3	8	13
HSC-MIC-007	Arugula	10	3	10	14
HSC-MIC-062	Kale, Red Russian	10	3	11	13.5
HSC-MIC-085	Ruby Streaks	9.5	3	9	14.5
2883MG	Mizuna OG	9.5	3	10	12
HSC-MIC-067	Kohlrabi, Purple	9.5	3	11	16
HSC-MIC-078	Mustard, Garnet Giant	8	3.5	9.5	12.5
HSC-MIC-110	Spicy Micro Mix	7.5	3.5	10	13.5
2897MG	Tatsoi OG	7.5	3.5	8.5	13.5
2247MG	Amaranth, Garnet Red OG	7.5	3.5	6.5	17
HSC-MIC-014	Basil, Italian Large Leaf	6.5	5	7.5	19
HSC-MIC-018	Basil, Red Rubin OG	6	5	5.5	25.5
HSC-MIC-011	Basil, Dark Opal	5	5	6	25.5
HSC-MIC-071	Marigold, Gem	4	7	6	18
HSC-MIC-049	Dandelion, Red	4	7	5.5	18
HSC-MIC-108	Sorrel, Red Veined	3.5	8	6.5	24

[1]**Please Note.** The values in these charts are imprecise as they reflect ranges and averages. For example, yield is subject to wide variations depending upon procedures, techniques, growing systems, growing conditions, harvest stage, and seed lot. Numbers are rounded to the nearest half number.

See back for more information on how we generated these numbers

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About the Yield Trial: This table helps estimate potential yield for a micro greens enterprise. These data come from a micro greens yield study conducted at the source research farm in 2017. The trial gathered information on seeding amounts and potential yield for 29 different micro green varieties.

Each variety was seeded at least three times over several months (from mid-August to late-October). Data covered varying environmental conditions. Each 1020 flat was seeded by eye, weighing the seed packet before and after seeding to determine the exact quantity of seed used per flat. The data on this sheet are an average of those seedings, although any obvious outliers (e.g., flats with poor germination) were excluded.

Stage of Maturity at Harvest: All varieties were harvested at the first true-leaf stage. Because micro greens grow quickly, each day can make a big difference in plant size and yield totals. As a visual reference, source photos record harvest size for each of the 29 tested varieties on its individual product webpage. Use these photos to compare your desired harvest maturity with the source trial and adjust your potential yield totals accordingly.

Also note that seeding density should change depending on the desired stage of maturity at harvest. The seeding rates detailed here were used for harvest at first true-leaf stage; however, if you want to allow your micro greens to grow larger, you should sow fewer seeds per flat to allow for greater air flow and slower depletion of water and fertility.

Days to Maturity: Days to maturity vary not only between varieties but upon growing conditions such as temperature, moisture, and sunlight. During the source trial, there was a week of unusually high temperatures (into the high 80s and low 90s) that accelerated the growth rate but limited the uniformity and quality of the finished product. If you are growing micro greens inside, under lights, these factors are easier to control, but if you are growing under protected cover outside, environmental conditions will cause the number of days to maturity to fluctuate.

Refining and Adjusting Your System: The data presented here are intended as a starting point from which you can build and refine your own system. We recommend taking detailed notes as you run your own trials so that you can adjust your system based on your specific needs and growing conditions. As you compile your data, you may notice similarities between crop types. For example, you may find that most radishes will yield similar amounts per flat, as will many of the brassica varieties. You can use this information to extrapolate among other varieties within plant families.

For more information on micro greens production, visit our Grower's Library.

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