

Melon fly- no more a problem



Bagging, an easy way to control melon fly

How to cover melon with Bag

Ideal size for bagging

Melon fly prefers small size melon for laying eggs. At apricot size, the melon is more vulnerable to melon fly attack. So bagging should be done when melon is at apricot size.

When the melon becomes bigger and the skin becomes thicker, the chances of attack reduce because it is difficult for the melon fly to push eggs inside the thick skin

Use of plastic bags or cloth bags

Both cloth bags and plastic bags can be used to cover melon. While cloth bags are little expensive, they can last for 4-5 years. Plastic bags are very cheap and are available at every corner of the village. While using plastic bag, make 5-6 tiny holes on the bag so that when the air inside the bag gets hotter can escape easily without affecting the fruit.

Field checking

Regular field checking of the bagged fruits is important. Most of the bagged fruits will grow well but some fruits might fail to grow for some other reasons. In such case, the bags should be removed and used to cover other fruits.

Attractive size and color

It needs to be mentioned that bagging does not affect the size, colour and taste of bagged fruits. It rather increases the colour of fruits, protecting from dust.



Chemical pesticides are still useless

According to research findings, no insecticides have yet been found effective to control this insect. Application of chemical insecticides rather poisons the melon, which is harmful for health.