

Land Preparation Guideline for the Cultivation of Organic Essential Oils Crops 2 ha: East London

Compulsory site briefing:

Please note that the location of the farm does not appear on the map.

We therefore suggest meeting at the Highgate Hotek in Cambridge at 14:00, after which we will proceed to the farm

Longitude: -32.949241°

Latitude: 27.858901°

Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is to provide general information on preparing land for the cultivation of essential oil crops on an organically certified area.

Guideline:

- Cut in all grasses and other plants on the soil surface with a disc harrow. A second operation will be required if a considerable amount of plant material is still visible after the first operation.
- The soil must be ripped and cross ripped, at a 45 degree angle to a minimum depth of 600 mm.
- The area must be ploughed to a minimum depth of 450 mm.
- Promis compost (Supplier: Grofast Organics) must be broadcasted to the entire area, 10 tons / ha, and the area must be re-ploughed to work the compost into the soil, followed by a discing activity to level the soil surface.
- For weed control, the area must be continuously irrigated to stimulate weed growth and weed seed germination.
- Once the weeds are approximately 150 mm in height, the area must be disced to cut in the weeds. The discing activity must be repeated at least 3 times.
- Should further weeds be observed, a further discing activity will be required.
- Once the occurrence of weeds is minimal, the area must be ridged.
- Ridges must be formed with a row spacing of 1.6 meters centre to centre.
- Ridges must have a flat area of 300 - 350 mm wide, for single row planting.

- If necessary, roads of approximately 4 meters wide in between blocks must be made to allow movement and turning of tractors and farm machinery.
- Pre-plant of Round-up ready (herbicide) at 2L/ha.