

# Cucumber: Long Green Improved



## Starting & Ending Population Size

Starting population size: 35 (Stable seed stock)  
60+ (Poor seed stock)

Harvest population size: Fruits for seed production should be harvested from a minimum of **20 plants**.

## Before Flowering

*Rogue plants:*

Low vigour (5-10% of population)  
Off-type growth (see below)



## Flowering & fruit growth

*Select fruits:*

Straight shape  
Taper to stem end



## At Fruit Maturity

*Select fruits:*

Dark green colour  
Black spines  
25-30cm, 5-8cm diameter  
Firm, crisp, white flesh



## A note about seed harvest

Fully ripened seeds are plump and hard and fruits should be left on the vine well past the point you would want to eat them. As long as flesh is firm, allow fruit to continue to ripen.

## **Further Roguing & Selection Information**

Seedling stage until before flowering: Remove any plants with low vigour and slow growth in the early stages after planting. Observe vegetative characteristics and rogue out any off-type plants displaying different leaf shape, colour and growth habit.

Early flowering and fruit development stage: At early flowering, the morphology of the undeveloped fruit should be checked. Long Green Improved cucumbers have a straight shape that tapers a little toward the stem end. As fruits further develop they should be checked for trueness to type and off-types should be removed as necessary (see pictures).

At fruit maturity: Slow maturing fruits should not be included in seed production and external morphological characteristics should be observed and off-types removed. Select fruits that are dark green with black spines, 25-30cm long and 5-8cm in diameter, with a straight shape tapered towards the stem end. Fruits should be firm and crisp with white flesh. Long Green Improved matures in approximately 65 days.

\*\*\*These are suggested tips and strategies for selecting a true to type Long Green Improved cucumber, you are welcome to look for other characteristics that you find appealing or suit your farm, market or growing condition. Please make note of it if you do so. \*\*\*

