

FarmLens Ltd

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Crop details

Coriander (dhania)

Coriandrum sativum

Family: Apiaceae

Categories

Vegetables

Spices & Condiments

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Quick stats

Family	Apiaceae
Typical harvest	4.8 t/ha
Varieties	3
Pests and diseases	5
Seasons	3

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	75
Main uses	Fresh leaves for flavouring, tender stems, and seeds (spice).
Pollination	insect
Origin and where it grows	Widely grown in highland and mid-altitude areas across East Africa for kitchen and market gardens.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	15 - 25 °C
Rainfall	400 - 700 mm/yr
Altitude	0 - 2600 m
Best pH	6.2 - 7.2
Soil type	Well-drained loam or sandy loam rich in organic matter.
Row spacing	30 cm
Plant spacing	10 cm
Planting depth	1.5 cm
Seed rate	12 kg/ha

Simple notes for farmers

About the crop: This crop is annual; it grows and is harvested in one season. Harvest typically starts about 75 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for fresh leaves for flavouring, tender stems, and seeds (spice)..

Pollination: Mainly insect; healthy flowers and pollinators improve fruit set.

Where it grows: Widely grown in highland and mid-altitude areas across East Africa for kitchen and market gardens.. Grouped under: Vegetables, Spices & Condiments.

Best climate: 15 - 25 °C; 400 - 700 mm/yr; up to about 2600 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 6.2 - 7.2; well-drained loam or sandy loam rich in organic matter..

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Sow directly in moist, well-prepared beds. Break split seeds lightly, sow shallow and cover with fine soil. Keep beds evenly moist until germination.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Best direct-seeded. If transplanted, move seedlings very young to avoid bolting.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Keep soil evenly moist—especially during emergence and early growth. Avoid water stress to reduce early bolting.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Under drip, feed small amounts of N and K weekly. Too much N late can cause soft growth.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Check 2× weekly for aphids, leaf miners, damping-off in seedlings and leaf spots. Remove diseased plants promptly.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	No pruning needed. Harvest outer leaves first to extend picking window.
<u>Harvest</u>	Start cutting leaves 30–45 days after sowing when plants are bushy and fragrant. For seed, allow plants to flower and dry on stalks.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Harvest in the cool hours, bunch gently, wash quickly and drain. Keep cool and shaded to maintain freshness.

Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

#	<u>Stage</u>	<u>DAP</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Targets (kg/ha)</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1	Basal at sowing	0	NPK 17-17-17 (light)	80 kg/ha	N: 14, P?O?: 14, K?O: 14	Incorporate into top 5 cm of soil; avoid salty bands against seed.
2	Early leafy boost	14	CAN 26% N (or equivalent)	60 kg/ha	N: 16, P?O?: 0, K?O: 0	Apply on moist soil; avoid leaf burn.
3	Optional K for quality	21	SOP (sulfate of potash)	40 kg/ha	N: 0, P?O?: 0, K?O: 20	Improves colour and shelf-life of bunches.

Nutrient requirements

<u>Nutrient</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Unit</u>
N	Basal	30	kg/ha
P?O?	Basal	20	kg/ha
K?O	Basal	20	kg/ha
N	Topdress_early	20	kg/ha
P?O?	Topdress_early	0	kg/ha
K?O	Topdress_early	15	kg/ha

Varieties

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Maturity (days)</u>	<u>Traits</u>
Leafy selection (bunching type)	KE	45	Fragrant leaves, suited to repeated pickings.
Slow-bolt selection	TZ	50	Delays flowering in warm weather; better leaf yield.
Seed/spice type	UG	90	Grown to produce dry seeds for spice.

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Basal	NPK 17-17-17	80	Light incorporation before sowing.
Topdress (leafy)	CAN 26% N	60	Apply 2–3 weeks after emergence.
Quality (optional)	SOP (K?SO?)	40	Improves leaf quality and shelf-life.

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Aphids	pest	Curled leaves, sticky honeydew and sooty mould.	Encourage natural enemies; use soaps or selective products if numbers rise.
Leaf miners	pest	Winding mines and blotches in leaves; reduced market quality.	Remove mined leaves early; use selective controls if pressure is high.
Cutworms	pest	Seedlings cut at ground level; gaps in rows.	Keep beds clean before sowing; replant missing spots promptly.
Damping-off / seedling blights	disease	Seedlings collapse near soil line, patchy emergence.	Use clean seedbeds, avoid overwatering, improve air flow.
Leaf spots (fungal/bacterial)	disease	Small brown spots merging on leaves; early yellowing.	Avoid overhead irrigation late; widen spacing; rotate beds.

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Low-input kitchen beds (leaf)	4.5	3	6	Scattered sowings, minimal fertilizer and hand watering.
Managed market beds (leaf)	9	6	12	Uniform stands, regular irrigation and topdressing.
Seed/spice production	0.9	0.6	1.2	Plants allowed to bolt and mature seeds; lower fresh-leaf yield.

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Highlands & cool mid-altitudes	Feb–Apr (long rains) and Sep–Nov (cooler short rains)	30–75 days after sowing, depending on cut system.
TZ	Northern & southern highlands	Onset of main rains or under irrigation year-round.	Continuous pickings for 3–6 weeks from first cut.
UG	Cooler mid-altitudes	At start of reliable rains; avoid hottest months to reduce bolting.	Multiple harvests; bunch weekly once ready.

Region suitability

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Suitability</u>
KE	Central & Rift highlands; cooler mid-altitudes	High
TZ	Northern/southern highlands; irrigated peri-urban belts	High
UG	Mid-altitude vegetable zones around major towns	High

Source: **FarmLens Ltd** - farmlens.africa and app.farmlens.africa. Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya. This guide was generated from the FarmLens database.