



Crop details

Ethiopian potato
(Plectranthus edulis)

Plectranthus edulis

Family: Lamiaceae

Categories

Roots & Tubers

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Quick stats

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Family | Lamiaceae |
| Typical harvest | 8.0 t/ha |
| Varieties | 1 |
| Pests and diseases | 1 |
| Seasons | 1 |

Crop profile

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Growth habit | perennial |
| Days to harvest | 200-280 |
| Main uses | Tuber crop |
| Pollination | insect |
| Origin and where it grows | Ethiopian highlands |

Weather, soil and spacing

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Best temperature | 12 - 20 °C |
| Rainfall | 700 - 1000 mm/yr |
| Altitude | 1500 - 3200 m |
| Best pH | 5.2 - 6.2 |
| Soil type | Fertile loam |
| Row spacing | 75 cm |
| Plant spacing | 30 cm |
| Planting depth | 6 cm |
| Seed rate | 1200 kg/ha |

Simple notes for farmers

About the crop: This crop is perennial; once planted it can keep producing for many years. Harvest typically starts about 200-280 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for tuber crop.

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

Where it grows: Ethiopian highlands. Grouped under: Roots & Tubers.

Best climate: 12 - 20 °C; 700 - 1000 mm/yr; up to about 3200 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 5.2 - 6.2; fertile loam.

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

| # | Stage | DAP | Product | Rate | Targets (kg/ha) | Notes |
|---|----------|-----|--------------|-----------|--|-------|
| 1 | Basal | 0 | NPK 12-24-12 | 140 kg/ha | N: N/A, P ₂ O ₅ : N/A, K ₂ O: N/A | N/A |
| 2 | Topdress | 45 | CAN 26% N | 100 kg/ha | N: N/A, P ₂ O ₅ : N/A, K ₂ O: N/A | N/A |

Nutrient requirements

| Nutrient | Stage | Amount | Unit |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------|-------|
| N | Basal | 40 | kg/ha |
| P ₂ O ₅ | Basal | 30 | kg/ha |
| K ₂ O | Basal | 40 | kg/ha |
| N | Topdress | 40 | kg/ha |

Field images



Varieties

| Name | Country | Maturity (days) | Traits |
|--------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|
| Local Plectranthus | ET | 240 | Cool-season |

Fertilizer recommendations

| Stage | Product | Rate | Notes |
|-------|--------------|------|-------|
| Basal | NPK 12-24-12 | 140 | |

Pests and diseases

| Name | Type | Symptoms | Management |
|------------|------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Tuber moth | pest | Tunnels in tubers | Mulch; field sanitation |

Yields

| System | Typical | Min | Max | Notes |
|--------|---------|-----|-----|-------|
|--------|---------|-----|-----|-------|

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|----|--|
| rainfed highland | 8 | 4 | 12 | |
|------------------|---|---|----|--|

Season calendars

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Region</u> | <u>Planting</u> | <u>Harvest</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| KE | High altitude | Mar–Apr | Aug–Nov |

Region suitability

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Region</u> | <u>Suitability</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| KE | High altitude | High |

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