

FarmLens Ltd

Website: farmlens.africa | App: app.farmlens.africa | Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya



Crop details

Bambara groundnut

Vigna subterranea

Family: Fabaceae

Categories

Legumes & Pulses

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Quick stats

Family	Fabaceae
Typical harvest	0.8 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	4
Seasons	2

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	100-150
Main uses	Pulse; food security
Pollination	self
Origin and where it grows	Sub-Saharan Africa

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	22 - 30 °C
Rainfall	500 - 900 mm/yr
Altitude	0 - 1600 m
Best pH	5.5 - 6.8
Soil type	Sandy loam; light soils
Row spacing	60 cm
Plant spacing	30 cm
Planting depth	4 cm
Seed rate	50 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 100-150 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for pulse; food security.

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

Where it grows: Sub-Saharan Africa. Grouped under: Legumes & Pulses.

Best climate: 22 - 30 °C; 500 - 900 mm/yr; up to about 1600 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 5.5 - 6.8; sandy loam; light soils.

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Direct seed into warm, moist soil; inoculate with compatible rhizobia where available; keep weed-free during early growth.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Not transplanted; direct seeding recommended.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Moderate water demand; ensure moisture at flowering and pod set; avoid waterlogging.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Minimal N required due to fixation; supplement P and K on poor soils.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout weekly for aphids, beetles, and foliar diseases; use sanitation and rotation.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	Not required; low bush habit.
<u>Harvest</u>	Harvest when pods are fully filled and leaves begin yellowing; dry pods adequately before shelling.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Dry to safe moisture; store in airtight containers; control bruchids if present.

Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

<u>#</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>DAP</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Targets (kg/ha)</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1	Basal	0	DAP 18-46-0	60 kg/ha	N: N/A, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Band or place below seed; avoid seed burn

Nutrient requirements

<u>Nutrient</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Unit</u>
P?O?	Basal	25	kg/ha
K?O	Basal	20	kg/ha
N	Topdress	0	kg/ha

Field images



Varieties

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Maturity (days)</u>	<u>Traits</u>
Local Bambara	KE	130	Drought tolerant

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Basal	DAP 18-46-0	60	Reduce if soil P is high

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Aphids	pest	Stunting	Spot sprays; natural enemies
Bruchids (storage)	pest	Holes/larvae in stored grains	Proper drying; hermetic storage; insecticidal dusts where appropriate
Leaf spots	disease	Necrotic foliar lesions	Rotation; sanitation; avoid overhead irrigation
Root rots	disease	Wilting, root decay	Improve drainage; avoid planting in poorly drained fields

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
rainfed smallholder	0.8	0.4	1.5	

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Western	Mar–Apr	Jul–Sep
KE	Eastern (short rains)	Oct–Nov	Jan–Mar

Region suitability

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Suitability</u>
KE	Eastern (semi-arid pockets)	Medium
KE	Western	High
TZ	Central semi-arid	High
UG	Northern	Medium

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