

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Fennel

Foeniculum vulgare

Family: Apiaceae

Categories

Vegetables

Spices & Condiments

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Quick stats

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Family | Apiaceae |
| Typical harvest | 14.0 t/ha |
| Varieties | 1 |
| Pests and diseases | 2 |
| Seasons | 1 |

Crop profile

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Growth habit | annual |
| Days to harvest | 95 |
| Main uses | Bulbs, leaves, and seeds for culinary and spice uses. |
| Pollination | insect |
| Origin and where it grows | Adapted to cool to warm dry highland vegetable and herb systems. |

Weather, soil and spacing

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Best temperature | 14 - 24 °C |
| Rainfall | 450 - 800 mm/yr |
| Altitude | 800 - 2800 m |
| Best pH | 6 - 7 |
| Soil type | Fertile well-drained loam rich in organic matter. |
| Row spacing | 45 cm |
| Plant spacing | 25 cm |
| Planting depth | 1.5 cm |
| Seed rate | 3 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 95 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for bulbs, leaves, and seeds for culinary and spice uses..

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

Where it grows: Adapted to cool to warm dry highland vegetable and herb systems.. Grouped under: Vegetables, Spices & Condiments.

Best climate: 14 - 24 °C; 450 - 800 mm/yr; up to about 2800 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 6 - 7; fertile well-drained loam rich in organic matter..

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Planting</u> | Establish Fennel in a fine weed-free seedbed and keep emergence moisture steady. |
| <u>Transplanting</u> | Direct seed or transplant depending on production system. |
| <u>Irrigation</u> | Maintain even soil moisture for steady Fennel growth and quality. |
| <u>Fertigation</u> | Use split nitrogen and potassium for market-quality Fennel. |
| <u>Pest scouting</u> | Scout Fennel weekly for chewing pests, sap suckers, and foliar diseases. |
| <u>Pruning and training</u> | No pruning required unless sanitation or staking is needed. |
| <u>Harvest</u> | Harvest Fennel in the cool hours and handle gently to preserve aroma. |
| <u>Postharvest</u> | Cool and shade Fennel promptly after harvest. |

Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

| # | Stage | DAP | Product | Rate | Targets (kg/ha) | Notes |
|---|----------|-----|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | Basal | 0 | NPK 17-17-17 | 200 kg/ha | N: 34, P?O?: 34, K?O: 34 | Basal fertilizer for Fennel. |
| 2 | Topdress | 21 | CAN | 100 kg/ha | N: 26, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A | Support active Fennel vegetative growth. |

Nutrient requirements

| Nutrient | Stage | Amount | Unit |
|----------|----------|--------|-------|
| N | Basal | 35 | kg/ha |
| P?O? | Basal | 30 | kg/ha |
| K?O | Basal | 35 | kg/ha |
| N | Topdress | 25 | kg/ha |
| K?O | Topdress | 20 | kg/ha |

Field images



Varieties

| Name | Country | Maturity (days) | Traits |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Florence Fennel | KE | 95 | Bulbing fennel for fresh market. |

Fertilizer recommendations

| <u>Stage</u> | <u>Product</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Notes</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Planting | Well-rotted manure | 5000 | Improve soil structure before Fennel planting. |
| Vegetative growth | CAN | 100 | Split topdress for Fennel production. |

Pests and diseases

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Symptoms</u> | <u>Management</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| Aphids | pest | Crowding on tender shoots and reduced growth. | Use clean fields and selective control if needed. |
| Powdery mildew | disease | White powdery growth on leaves. | Improve airflow and avoid overcrowding. |

Yields

| <u>System</u> | <u>Typical</u> | <u>Min</u> | <u>Max</u> | <u>Notes</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| Managed fresh-market production | 14 | 9.8 | 21 | Typical marketable Fennel yield under irrigated or well-managed conditions. |

Season calendars

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Region</u> | <u>Planting</u> | <u>Harvest</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| KE | Highland Vegetable Zones | Mar-Apr or Oct-Nov | Year-round depending on irrigation |

Region suitability

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Region</u> | <u>Suitability</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| KE | Highland Vegetable Zones | High |

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