

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Lychee

Litchi chinensis

Family: Sapindaceae

Categories

Fruits & Nuts

Generated: 2026-04-11 10:17

Quick stats

Family	Sapindaceae
Typical harvest	9.0 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	tree
Days to harvest	365
Main uses	Fresh premium fruit and processing.
Pollination	insect
Origin and where it grows	Adapted to warm subtropical orchards with a mild cool period for flowering.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	18 - 30 °C
Rainfall	800 - 1600 mm/yr
Altitude	0 - 2600 m
Best pH	6 - 7
Soil type	Deep, fertile, well-drained soil with good organic matter.
Row spacing	500 cm
Plant spacing	500 cm
Planting depth	30 cm
Seed rate	kg/ha (check local recommendation)
Nursery days	180

Simple notes for farmers

About the crop: This crop has a growth habit described as "tree". Harvest typically starts about 365 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for fresh premium fruit and processing..

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

Where it grows: Adapted to warm subtropical orchards with a mild cool period for flowering.. Grouped under: Fruits & Nuts.

Best climate: 18 - 30 °C; 800 - 1600 mm/yr; up to about 2600 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 6 - 7; deep, fertile, well-drained soil with good organic matter..

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Plant healthy Lychee seedlings or grafted plants at onset of rains in prepared pits.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Handle Lychee rootballs carefully and water well after planting.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Maintain steady moisture during establishment and fruit development of Lychee.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Split nutrients through active growth and fruit development in Lychee.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout Lychee regularly for fruit flies, scales, borers, and foliar diseases.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	Prune Lychee to maintain canopy light, height, and sanitation.
<u>Harvest</u>	Harvest Lychee at the right maturity stage for fresh-market quality.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Keep Lychee shaded and cool after harvest to preserve market quality.

Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

#	Stage	DAP	Product	Rate	Targets (kg/ha)	Notes
1	Planting or season start	0	Well-rotted manure	8000 kg/ha	N: N/A, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Improve rooting environment for Lychee.
2	Pre-fruiting	90	NPK 17-17-17	200 kg/ha	N: 34, P?O?: 34, K?O: 34	Balanced nutrient support for Lychee.

Nutrient requirements

Nutrient	Stage	Amount	Unit
N	Basal	40	kg/ha
P?O?	Basal	30	kg/ha
K?O	Basal	40	kg/ha
N	Fruiting	40	kg/ha
K?O	Fruiting	50	kg/ha

Field images



Varieties

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Mauritius	KE	365	Reliable lychee for subtropical orchards.

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Planting	Well-rotted manure	8000	Organic matter for Lychee establishment.
Pre-fruiting	NPK 17-17-17	200	Balanced fertilizer ahead of major Lychee crop load.

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Fruit flies	pest	Stings, larval feeding, and rotting fruits.	Field sanitation, trapping, and timely harvest.
Anthrachnose and fruit rots	disease	Lesions on flowers, leaves, or fruits reducing quality.	Prune for airflow, keep orchards clean, and protect during wet periods.

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Managed orchard production	9	5.4	14.4	Typical orchard yield for Lychee under practical management.

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Managed Orchard Zones	Mar-Apr or Oct-Nov	Depends on variety and agroecology

Region suitability

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Suitability</u>
KE	Managed Orchard Zones	Medium

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