

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Pumpkin

Cucurbita moschata

Family: Cucurbitaceae

Categories

Vegetables

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Quick stats

Family	Cucurbitaceae
Typical harvest	14.0 t/ha
Varieties	2
Pests and diseases	3
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	120
Main uses	Fruit and leaves for food, with seed use in snacks and oil.
Pollination	insect
Origin and where it grows	Widely grown in East African homesteads and market gardens.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	20 - 30 °C
Rainfall	500 - 900 mm/yr
Altitude	0 - 1800 m
Best pH	6 - 7
Soil type	Fertile, well-drained soil with high organic matter
Row spacing	150 cm
Plant spacing	90 cm
Planting depth	2 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 120 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for fruit and leaves for food, with seed use in snacks and oil..

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

Where it grows: Widely grown in East African homesteads and market gardens.. Grouped under: Vegetables.

Best climate: 20 - 30 °C; 500 - 900 mm/yr; up to about 1800 m a.s.l.

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

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

Planting	Direct seed after soils warm; 2–3 seeds per hill, thin to strongest.
Transplanting	Thin to strongest plant
Irrigation	Steady water through flowering; reduce late to harden fruits.
Harvest	Harvest at full color; cure 7–10 days in shade.

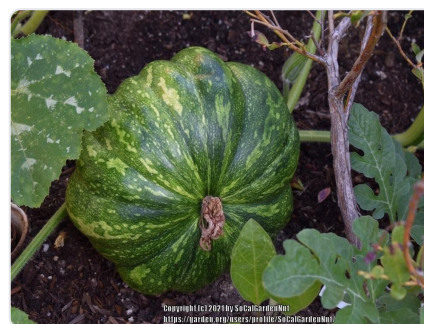
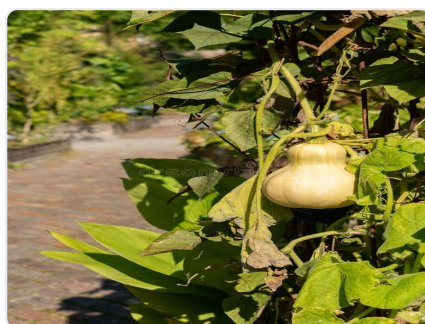
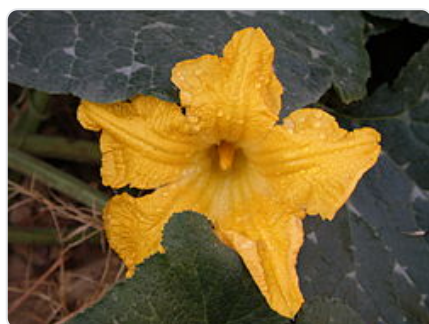
Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

#	Stage	DAP	Product	Rate	Targets (kg/ha)	Notes
1	Basal	0	NPK 17-17-17	200 kg/ha	N: 34, P ₂ O ₅ : 34, K ₂ O: 34	Basal fertilizer for Pumpkin.
2	Topdress	21	CAN	100 kg/ha	N: 26, P ₂ O ₅ : N/A, K ₂ O: N/A	Support active Pumpkin vegetative growth.

Nutrient requirements

Nutrient	Stage	Amount	Unit
N	Basal	35	kg/ha
P ₂ O ₅	Basal	30	kg/ha
K ₂ O	Basal	35	kg/ha
N	Topdress	25	kg/ha
K ₂ O	Topdress	20	kg/ha

Field images



Varieties

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Waltham Butternut	KE	100	Uniform fruits
Butternut	KE	120	Preferred market type with good shelf life.

Fertilizer recommendations

Stage	Product	Rate	Notes
Planting	Well-rotted manure	5000	Improve soil structure before Pumpkin planting.

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Vegetative growth	CAN	100	Split topdress for Pumpkin production.

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Powdery mildew	disease	White powder on leaves	Resistant varieties; fungicides if needed
Aphids	pest	Leaf curling and sticky honeydew.	Scout frequently and use selective control when pressure builds.
Leaf spot complex	disease	Necrotic spotting and reduced leaf quality.	Improve airflow, rotate crops, and avoid prolonged leaf wetness.

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
rainfed smallholder	12	8	20	
Managed fresh-market production	16	11.2	24	Typical marketable Pumpkin 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
KE	Lowlands	N/A

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