

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Beetroot

Beta vulgaris

Family: Amaranthaceae

Categories

Vegetables

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Quick stats

Family	Amaranthaceae
Typical harvest	20.0 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	3
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	biennial
Days to harvest	70-120
Main uses	Root vegetable
Pollination	wind
Origin and where it grows	Temperate; widely grown

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	12 - 22 °C
Rainfall	400 - 700 mm/yr
Altitude	0 - 2600 m
Best pH	6.2 - 7
Soil type	Loose sandy loam
Row spacing	40 cm
Plant spacing	10 cm
Planting depth	2 cm
Seed rate	6 kg/ha

Simple notes for farmers

About the crop: This crop is biennial; it usually needs two seasons to complete its cycle. Harvest typically starts about 70-120 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for root vegetable.

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

Where it grows: Temperate; widely grown. Grouped under: Vegetables.

Best climate: 12 - 22 °C; 400 - 700 mm/yr; up to about 2600 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 6.2 - 7; loose sandy loam.

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Direct seed into fine, firm seedbed; thin to spacing for uniform roots.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Transplanting not typical; can cause forked roots.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Maintain consistent moisture; avoid stress during root bulking.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Where drip is used, split N applications lightly through early to mid growth.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout for leaf spots and leaf miners; remove affected leaves; rotate fields.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	Not required.
<u>Harvest</u>	Harvest at desired size before roots become woody; avoid damaging skins.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Shade-cure; store cool and humid; avoid desiccation to maintain firmness.

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	NPK 12-24-12	90 kg/ha	N: N/A, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	N/A
2	Topdress	30	CAN 26% N	60 kg/ha	N: N/A, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Irrigate after application

Nutrient requirements

<u>Nutrient</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Unit</u>
N	Basal	40	kg/ha
P?O?	Basal	30	kg/ha
K?O	Basal	40	kg/ha
N	Topdress	20	kg/ha

Field images



Varieties

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Maturity (days)</u>	<u>Traits</u>
Detroit Dark Red	KE	90	Uniform roots

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
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Basal	NPK 12-24-12	90	
Topdress	CAN 26% N	60	Split if soils are light

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Leaf spot	disease	Spots on leaves	Rotation; protectants
Leaf miner	pest	Winding mines in leaves	Remove mined leaves; monitor; IPM controls
Root maggot	pest	Tunnels in roots; wilting	Covers at planting; rotation; sanitation

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
open-field	20	12	35	

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Highlands	Feb–Apr	May–Jul

Region suitability

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Suitability</u>
KE	Highlands	High
TZ	Northern highlands	High
UG	Southwest highlands	High

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