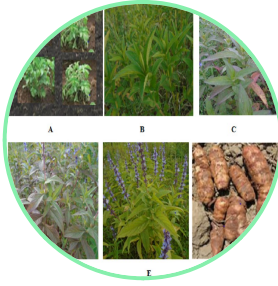


# FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

## Ethiopian Potato

*Plectranthus edulis*

Family: Lamiaceae

Categories

Roots & Tubers

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### Quick stats

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Family</b>             | Lamiaceae |
| <b>Typical harvest</b>    | 16.0 t/ha |
| <b>Varieties</b>          | 1         |
| <b>Pests and diseases</b> | 2         |
| <b>Seasons</b>            | 1         |

### Weather, soil and spacing

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Best temperature</b> | 14 - 24 °C  |
| <b>Rainfall</b>         | 450 - 800 mm/yr                                   |
| <b>Altitude</b>         | 800 - 2800 m                                      |
| <b>Best pH</b>          | 6 - 7   |
| <b>Soil type</b>        | Fertile well-drained loam rich in organic matter. |
| <b>Row spacing</b>      | 30 cm   |
| <b>Plant spacing</b>    | 10 cm   |
| <b>Planting depth</b>   | 1.5 cm  |
| <b>Seed rate</b>        | 5 kg/ha   |

### Crop profile

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Growth habit</b>              | annual  |
| <b>Days to harvest</b>           | 180   |
| <b>Main uses</b>                 | Traditional tuber for boiling and food security in highland areas.            |
| <b>Pollination</b>               | insect  |
| <b>Origin and where it grows</b> | Indigenous to Ethiopian highlands with adaptation in cool East African zones. |

### Simple notes for farmers

**About the crop:** This crop is annual; it grows and is harvested in one season. Harvest typically starts about 180 days after planting.

**Main use:** Farmers mostly grow this crop for traditional tuber for boiling and food security in highland areas..

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

**Where it grows:** Indigenous to Ethiopian highlands with adaptation in cool East African zones.. Grouped under: Roots & Tubers.

**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)

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b><u>Planting</u></b>             | Establish Ethiopian Potato in a fine weed-free seedbed and keep emergence moisture steady. |
| <b><u>Transplanting</u></b>        | Direct seed or transplant depending on production system.                                  |
| <b><u>Irrigation</u></b>           | Maintain even soil moisture for steady Ethiopian Potato growth and quality.                |
| <b><u>Fertigation</u></b>          | Use split nitrogen and potassium for market-quality Ethiopian Potato.                      |
| <b><u>Pest scouting</u></b>        | Scout Ethiopian Potato weekly for chewing pests, sap suckers, and foliar diseases.         |
| <b><u>Pruning and training</u></b> | No pruning required unless sanitation or staking is needed.                                |
| <b><u>Harvest</u></b>              | Harvest Ethiopian Potato when roots size up well before they become fibrous or pithy.      |
| <b><u>Postharvest</u></b>          | Cool and shade Ethiopian Potato 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 <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> : 34, K <sub>2</sub> O: 34   | Basal fertilizer for Ethiopian Potato.             |
| 2 | Topdress | 21  | CAN          | 100 kg/ha | N: 26, P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> : N/A, K <sub>2</sub> O: N/A | Support active Ethiopian Potato vegetative growth. |

### **Nutrient requirements**

| Nutrient                      | Stage    | Amount | Unit  |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------|-------|
| N                             | Basal    | 35     | kg/ha |
| P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> | Basal    | 30     | kg/ha |
| K <sub>2</sub> O              | Basal    | 35     | kg/ha |
| N                             | Topdress | 25     | kg/ha |
| K <sub>2</sub> O              | Topdress | 20     | kg/ha |

### **Field images**



### **Varieties**

| Name                 | Country | Maturity (days) | Traits  |
|----------------------|---------|-----------------|---|
| Highland Plecranthus | ET      | 180             | Traditional tuber with strong local adaptation. |

## Fertilizer recommendations

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

## Pests and diseases

| <u>Name</u>           | <u>Type</u> | <u>Symptoms</u>                                 | <u>Management</u>                                  |
|-----------------------|-------------|---|--|
| Root maggots          | pest        | Tunneling and feeding damage on roots.          | Rotate crops and maintain field sanitation.        |
| Root cracking and rot | disease     | Cracked or rotting roots under uneven moisture. | Maintain even moisture and use well-drained soils. |

## Yields

| <u>System</u>                   | <u>Typical</u> | <u>Min</u> | <u>Max</u> | <u>Notes</u>  |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|------------|---|
| Managed fresh-market production | 16             | 11.2       | 24         | Typical marketable Ethiopian Potato 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](http://farmlens.africa) and [app.farmlens.africa](http://app.farmlens.africa). Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya. This guide was generated from the FarmLens database.