

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Linseed Flax

Linum usitatissimum

Family: Linaceae

Categories

Oil & Industrial

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Quick stats

Family	Linaceae
Typical harvest	1.3 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	125
Main uses	Oilseed and fiber crop for edible oil and industrial uses.
Pollination	wind
Origin and where it grows	Grown in Ethiopian highlands and adaptable cool East African zones.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	10 - 24 °C
Rainfall	450 - 750 mm/yr
Altitude	800 - 3000 m
Best pH	6 - 7
Soil type	Well-drained loam to clay loam with moderate fertility.
Row spacing	20 cm
Plant spacing	5 cm
Planting depth	4 cm
Seed rate	80 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 125 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for oilseed and fiber crop for edible oil and industrial uses..

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

Where it grows: Grown in Ethiopian highlands and adaptable cool East African zones.. Grouped under: Oil & Industrial.

Best climate: 10 - 24 °C; 450 - 750 mm/yr; up to about 3000 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 6 - 7; well-drained loam to clay loam with moderate fertility..

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Direct-seed Linseed Flax into a fine firm seedbed at onset of reliable rains.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Not transplanted.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Maintain moisture during establishment and grain filling where irrigation is used.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Split nitrogen between planting and early vegetative growth where moisture allows.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout Linseed Flax for aphids, armyworms, foliar diseases, and lodging risk.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	No pruning needed; keep weeds low during early establishment.
<u>Harvest</u>	Harvest Linseed Flax when grains harden and heads dry down evenly.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Dry grain well before threshing and storage.

Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

#	Stage	DAP	Product	Rate	Targets (kg/ha)	Notes
1	Basal	0	DAP	100 kg/ha	N: 18, P?O?: 46, K?O: N/A	Starter fertilizer for Linseed Flax establishment.
2	Topdress	28	CAN	100 kg/ha	N: 26, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Topdress Linseed Flax before rain or irrigation.

Nutrient requirements

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

Field images



Varieties

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Blue Linseed	ET	125	Cool-season oilseed with quality omega-rich grain.

Fertilizer recommendations

Stage	Product	Rate	Notes
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Planting	DAP	100	Basal phosphorus for Linseed Flax establishment.
Topdress	CAN	100	Nitrogen support for Linseed Flax vegetative growth.

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Aphids	pest	Sap sucking on leaves and grain heads.	Scout early, preserve beneficial insects, and control when thresholds are exceeded.
Leaf rust	disease	Rust pustules on leaves reducing grain fill.	Use tolerant varieties, rotation, and timely disease control.

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Rainfed smallholder production	1.3	0.8	2.2	Typical grain yield under practical Linseed Flax management.

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Highland Grain Zones	Mar-Apr	Jul-Aug

Region suitability

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Suitability</u>
KE	Highland Grain Zones	Medium

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