

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Rye

Secale cereale

Family: Poaceae

Categories

Cereals & Pseudocereals

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Quick stats

Family	Poaceae
Typical harvest	2.1 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	3
Seasons	2

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	110-160
Main uses	Cereal grain; cover crop
Pollination	wind
Origin and where it grows	Temperate zones

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	10 - 18 °C
Rainfall	450 - 700 mm/yr
Altitude	800 - 2600 m
Best pH	5.5 - 6.8
Soil type	Sandy loam to loam
Row spacing	20 cm
Plant spacing	5 cm
Planting depth	3 cm
Seed rate	70 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 110-160 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for cereal grain; cover crop.

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

Where it grows: Temperate zones. Grouped under: Cereals & Pseudocereals.

Best climate: 10 - 18 °C; 450 - 700 mm/yr; up to about 2600 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 5.5 - 6.8; sandy loam to loam.

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Direct-seed Rye 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 Rye 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 Rye 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	NPK 17-17-17	60 kg/ha	N: 18, P?O?: 46, K?O: N/A	Starter fertilizer for Rye establishment.
2	Tillering	35	Urea	40 kg/ha	N: 26, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Topdress Rye before rain or irrigation.

Nutrient requirements

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

Field images



Varieties

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Highland Rye	KE	140	Cool tolerant

Fertilizer recommendations

Stage	Product	Rate	Notes
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Basal	NPK 17-17-17	60	
Planting	DAP	100	Basal phosphorus for Rye establishment.
Topdress	CAN	100	Nitrogen support for Rye vegetative growth.

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Ergot	disease	Sclerotia in heads	Clean seed; rotation
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 highland	2	1.2	3.5	
Rainfed smallholder production	2.2	1.3	3.7	Typical grain yield under practical Rye management.

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Highlands	Jun–Jul	Oct–Dec
KE	Highland Grain Zones	Mar–Apr	Aug–Sep

Region suitability

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

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