

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Blueberry

Vaccinium corymbosum

Family: Ericaceae

Categories

Fruits & Nuts

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Quick stats

Family	Ericaceae
Typical harvest	6.0 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	shrub
Days to harvest	270
Main uses	Fresh premium berries and health-food processing.
Pollination	insect
Origin and where it grows	Niche crop for cool acidic highland environments or managed substrate systems.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	10 - 22 °C
Rainfall	800 - 1600 mm/yr
Altitude	0 - 2600 m
Best pH	6 - 7
Soil type	Deep, fertile, well-drained soil with good organic matter.
Row spacing	500 cm
Plant spacing	500 cm
Planting depth	30 cm
Seed rate	kg/ha (check local recommendation)
Nursery days	180

Simple notes for farmers

About the crop: This crop has a growth habit described as "shrub". Harvest typically starts about 270 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for fresh premium berries and health-food processing..

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

Where it grows: Niche crop for cool acidic highland environments or managed substrate systems.. Grouped under: Fruits & Nuts.

Best climate: 10 - 22 °C; 800 - 1600 mm/yr; up to about 2600 m a.s.l.

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

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Plant healthy Blueberry seedlings or grafted plants at onset of rains in prepared pits.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Handle Blueberry rootballs carefully and water well after planting.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Maintain steady moisture during establishment and fruit development of Blueberry.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Split nutrients through active growth and fruit development in Blueberry.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout Blueberry regularly for fruit flies, scales, borers, and foliar diseases.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	Prune Blueberry to maintain canopy light, height, and sanitation.
<u>Harvest</u>	Harvest Blueberry at the right maturity stage for fresh-market quality.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Keep Blueberry shaded and cool after harvest to preserve market quality.

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	Planting or season start	0	Well-rotted manure	8000 kg/ha	N: N/A, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Improve rooting environment for Blueberry.
2	Pre-fruiting	90	NPK 17-17-17	200 kg/ha	N: 34, P?O?: 34, K?O: 34	Balanced nutrient support for Blueberry.

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	Fruiting	40	kg/ha
K?O	Fruiting	50	kg/ha

Field images



Varieties

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Maturity (days)</u>	<u>Traits</u>
Misty	KE	270	Low-chill blueberry for specialty production.

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Planting	Well-rotted manure	8000	Organic matter for Blueberry establishment.
Pre-fruiting	NPK 17-17-17	200	Balanced fertilizer ahead of major Blueberry crop load.

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Fruit flies	pest	Stings, larval feeding, and rotting fruits.	Field sanitation, trapping, and timely harvest.
Anthraxnose and fruit rots	disease	Lesions on flowers, leaves, or fruits reducing quality.	Prune for airflow, keep orchards clean, and protect during wet periods.

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Managed orchard production	6	3.6	9.6	Typical orchard yield for Blueberry under practical management.

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Managed Orchard Zones	Mar-Apr or Oct-Nov	Depends on variety and agroecology

Region suitability

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Suitability</u>
KE	Managed Orchard Zones	Medium

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