

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Fennel

Foeniculum vulgare

Family: Apiaceae

Categories

Vegetables

Spices & Condiments

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Quick stats

Family	Apiaceae
Typical harvest	14.0 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	14 - 24 °C
Rainfall	450 - 800 mm/yr
Altitude	800 - 2800 m
Best pH	6 - 7
Soil type	Fertile well-drained loam rich in organic matter.
Row spacing	45 cm
Plant spacing	25 cm
Planting depth	1.5 cm
Seed rate	3 kg/ha

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	95
Main uses	Bulbs, leaves, and seeds for culinary and spice uses.
Pollination	insect
Origin and where it grows	Adapted to cool to warm dry highland vegetable and herb systems.

Simple notes for farmers

About the crop: This crop is annual; it grows and is harvested in one season. Harvest typically starts about 95 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for bulbs, leaves, and seeds for culinary and spice uses..

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

Where it grows: Adapted to cool to warm dry highland vegetable and herb systems.. Grouped under: Vegetables, Spices & Condiments.

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)

<u>Planting</u>	Establish Fennel in a fine weed-free seedbed and keep emergence moisture steady.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Direct seed or transplant depending on production system.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Maintain even soil moisture for steady Fennel growth and quality.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Use split nitrogen and potassium for market-quality Fennel.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout Fennel weekly for chewing pests, sap suckers, and foliar diseases.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	No pruning required unless sanitation or staking is needed.
<u>Harvest</u>	Harvest Fennel in the cool hours and handle gently to preserve aroma.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Cool and shade Fennel 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?O?: 34, K?O: 34	Basal fertilizer for Fennel.
2	Topdress	21	CAN	100 kg/ha	N: 26, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Support active Fennel vegetative growth.

Nutrient requirements

Nutrient	Stage	Amount	Unit
N	Basal	35	kg/ha
P?O?	Basal	30	kg/ha
K?O	Basal	35	kg/ha
N	Topdress	25	kg/ha
K?O	Topdress	20	kg/ha

Field images



Varieties

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Florence Fennel	KE	95	Bulbing fennel for fresh market.

Fertilizer recommendations

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

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Aphids	pest	Crowding on tender shoots and reduced growth.	Use clean fields and selective control if needed.
Powdery mildew	disease	White powdery growth on leaves.	Improve airflow and avoid overcrowding.

Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Managed fresh-market production	14	9.8	21	Typical marketable Fennel 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

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