

# FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

## Leek

*Allium ampeloprasum var. porrum*

Family: Amaryllidaceae

Categories

Vegetables

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### Quick stats

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

### Crop profile

<b>Growth habit</b>	annual
<b>Days to harvest</b>	120
<b>Main uses</b>	Blanched pseudostems and leaves for cooking.
<b>Pollination</b>	insect
<b>Origin and where it grows</b>	Well suited to cool vegetable belts in highland East Africa.

### Weather, soil and spacing

<b>Best temperature</b>	10 - 22 °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>	40 cm
<b>Plant spacing</b>	20 cm
<b>Planting depth</b>	1.5 cm
<b>Seed rate</b>	4 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 120 days after planting.

**Main use:** Farmers mostly grow this crop for blanched pseudostems and leaves for cooking..

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

**Where it grows:** Well suited to cool vegetable belts in highland East Africa.. Grouped under: Vegetables.

**Best climate:** 10 - 22 °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 Leek 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 Leek growth and quality.
<b><u>Fertigation</u></b>	Use split nitrogen and potassium for market-quality Leek.
<b><u>Pest scouting</u></b>	Scout Leek 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 Leek at market maturity for the intended use.
<b><u>Postharvest</u></b>	Cool and shade Leek 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 Leek.
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 Leek 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
American Flag	KE	120	Reliable thick white stems.

### **Fertilizer recommendations**

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

### **Pests and diseases**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Aphids	pest	Leaf curling and sticky honeydew.	Scout frequently and use selective control when pressure builds.
Leaf spot complex	disease	Necrotic spotting and reduced leaf quality.	Improve airflow, rotate crops, and avoid prolonged leaf wetness.

### **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 Leek 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.