

FarmLens Ltd

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Crop details

East African Highland

Banana

Musa AAA-EA

Family: Musaceae

Categories

Bananas & Plantains

Generated: 2026-04-11 06:40

Quick stats

Family	Musaceae
Typical harvest	18.0 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	perennial
Days to harvest	420
Main uses	Staple matoke cooking banana for household consumption and trade.
Pollination	insect
Origin and where it grows	Core staple in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and western Kenya highlands.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	18 - 28 °C
Rainfall	800 - 1600 mm/yr
Altitude	1000 - 2200 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 is perennial; once planted it can keep producing for many years. Harvest typically starts about 420 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for staple matoke cooking banana for household consumption and trade..

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

Where it grows: Core staple in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and western Kenya highlands.. Grouped under: Bananas & Plantains.

Best climate: 18 - 28 °C; 800 - 1600 mm/yr; up to about 2200 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 East African Highland Banana seedlings or grafted plants at onset of rains in prepared pits.
<u>Transplanting</u>	Handle East African Highland Banana rootballs carefully and water well after planting.
<u>Irrigation</u>	Maintain steady moisture during establishment and fruit development of East African Highland Banana.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Split nutrients through active growth and fruit development in East African Highland Banana.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout East African Highland Banana regularly for fruit flies, scales, borers, and foliar diseases.
<u>Pruning and training</u>	Prune East African Highland Banana to maintain canopy light, height, and sanitation.
<u>Harvest</u>	Harvest East African Highland Banana at the right maturity stage for fresh-market quality.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Keep East African Highland Banana shaded and cool after harvest to preserve market quality.

Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

#	Stage	DAP	Product	Rate	Targets (kg/ha)	Notes
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 East African Highland Banana.
2	Pre-fruiting	90	NPK 17-17-17	200 kg/ha	N: 34, P?O?: 34, K?O: 34	Balanced nutrient support for East African Highland Banana.

Nutrient requirements

Nutrient	Stage	Amount	Unit
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>
Nakitengwa	UG	420	EAHB cooking type with stable bunching.

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Planting	Well-rotted manure	8000	Organic matter for East African Highland Banana establishment.
Pre-fruiting	NPK 17-17-17	200	Balanced fertilizer ahead of major East African Highland Banana 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	18	10.8	28.8	Typical orchard yield for East African Highland Banana 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.