

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Mustard Seed

Brassica juncea

Family: Brassicaceae

Categories

Oil & Industrial

Spices & Condiments

Generated: 2026-04-11 08:28

Quick stats

Family	Brassicaceae
Typical harvest	1.6 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	105
Main uses	Seed spice and oil crop for condiment and culinary markets.
Pollination	wind
Origin and where it grows	Grown in cool-season highland systems and peri-urban spice farming.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	12 - 24 °C
Rainfall	450 - 750 mm/yr
Altitude	800 - 3000 m
Best pH	6 - 7
Soil type	Well-drained loam to clay loam with moderate fertility.
Row spacing	20 cm
Plant spacing	5 cm
Planting depth	4 cm
Seed rate	80 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 105 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for seed spice and oil crop for condiment and culinary markets..

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

Where it grows: Grown in cool-season highland systems and peri-urban spice farming.. Grouped under: Oil & Industrial, Spices & Condiments.

Best climate: 12 - 24 °C; 450 - 750 mm/yr; up to about 3000 m a.s.l.

Soil: Best at pH 6 - 7; well-drained loam to clay loam with moderate fertility..

Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<u>Planting</u>	Direct-seed Mustard Seed 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 Mustard Seed 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 Mustard Seed 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	DAP	100 kg/ha	N: 18, P?O?: 46, K?O: N/A	Starter fertilizer for Mustard Seed establishment.
2	Topdress	28	CAN	100 kg/ha	N: 26, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Topdress Mustard Seed before rain or irrigation.

Nutrient requirements

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

Field images



Varieties

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Brown Mustard	KE	105	Pungent seed type for spice and oil uses.

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Planting	DAP	100	Basal phosphorus for Mustard Seed establishment.
Topdress	CAN	100	Nitrogen support for Mustard Seed vegetative growth.

Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
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 smallholder production	1.6	1	2.7	Typical grain yield under practical Mustard Seed management.

Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Highland Grain Zones	Mar-Apr	Jul-Aug

Region suitability

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

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