FarmLens Ltd

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

Crop details

Triticale

× *Triticosecale*

Family: Poaceae

Categories

Cereals & Pseudocereals | Forages & Fodder

Generated: 2026-04-11 06:48

Quick stats

Family	Poaceae
Typical harvest	3.2 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	130
Main uses	Dual-purpose grain and forage cereal for cool highland systems.
Pollination	wind
Origin and where it grows	Used in East African dairy highlands and cool cereal zones.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	10 - 22 °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 130 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for dual-purpose grain and forage cereal for cool highland systems..

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

Where it grows: Used in East African dairy highlands and cool cereal zones.. Grouped under: Cereals & Pseudocereals, Forages & Fodder.

Best climate: 10 - 22 °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)

Planting	Direct-seed Triticale into a fine firm seedbed at onset of reliable rains.
Transplanting	Not transplanted.
Irrigation	Maintain moisture during establishment and grain filling where irrigation is used.
Fertigation	Split nitrogen between planting and early vegetative growth where moisture allows.
Pest scouting	Scout Triticale for aphids, armyworms, foliar diseases, and lodging risk.
Pruning and training	No pruning needed; keep weeds low during early establishment.
Harvest	Harvest Triticale when grains harden and heads dry down evenly.
Postharvest	Dry grain well before threshing and storage.

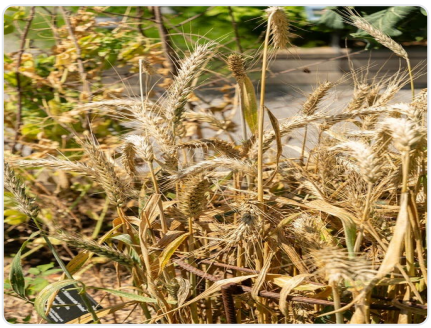
Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

#	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 Triticale establishment.
2	Topdress	28	CAN	100 kg/ha	N: 26, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Topdress Triticale 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
Highland Triticale	KE	130	Lodging-tolerant dual-use grain and fodder type.

Fertilizer recommendations

Stage	Product	Rate	Notes

Planting	DAP	100	Basal phosphorus for Triticale establishment.
Topdress	CAN	100	Nitrogen support for Triticale vegetative growth.

Pests and diseases

Name	Type	Symptoms	Management
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

System	Typical	Min	Max	Notes
Rainfed smallholder production	3.2	1.9	5.4	Typical grain yield under practical Triticale management.

Season calendars

Country	Region	Planting	Harvest
KE	Highland Grain Zones	Mar-Apr	Jul-Aug

Region suitability

Country	Region	Suitability
KE	Highland Grain Zones	Medium