

FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

Zucchini

Cucurbita pepo

Family: Cucurbitaceae

Categories

Vegetables

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Quick stats

Family	Cucurbitaceae
Typical harvest	20.0 t/ha
Varieties	1
Pests and diseases	2
Seasons	1

Crop profile

Growth habit	annual
Days to harvest	60
Main uses	Tender immature fruits for fresh markets and hotel trade.
Pollination	insect
Origin and where it grows	Popular in irrigated peri-urban East African vegetable production.

Weather, soil and spacing

Best temperature	16 - 28 °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	40 cm
Plant spacing	20 cm
Planting depth	1.5 cm
Seed rate	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 60 days after planting.

Main use: Farmers mostly grow this crop for tender immature fruits for fresh markets and hotel trade..

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

Where it grows: Popular in irrigated peri-urban East African vegetable production.. Grouped under: Vegetables.

Best climate: 16 - 28 °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 Zucchini 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 Zucchini growth and quality.
<u>Fertigation</u>	Use split nitrogen and potassium for market-quality Zucchini.
<u>Pest scouting</u>	Scout Zucchini 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 Zucchini at market maturity for the intended use.
<u>Postharvest</u>	Cool and shade Zucchini promptly after harvest.

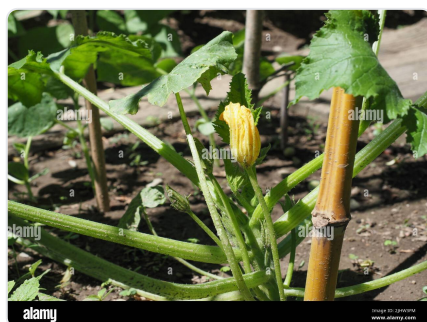
Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)

#	Stage	DAP	Product	Rate	Targets (kg/ha)	Notes
1	Basal	0	NPK 17-17-17	200 kg/ha	N: 34, P ₂ O ₅ : 34, K ₂ O: 34	Basal fertilizer for Zucchini.
2	Topdress	21	CAN	100 kg/ha	N: 26, P ₂ O ₅ : N/A, K ₂ O: N/A	Support active Zucchini vegetative growth.

Nutrient requirements

Nutrient	Stage	Amount	Unit
N	Basal	35	kg/ha
P ₂ O ₅	Basal	30	kg/ha
K ₂ O	Basal	35	kg/ha
N	Topdress	25	kg/ha
K ₂ O	Topdress	20	kg/ha

Field images



Varieties

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Dark Green Zucchini	KE	60	Continuous picking with strong fresh-market demand.

Fertilizer recommendations

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Planting	Well-rotted manure	5000	Improve soil structure before Zucchini planting.
Vegetative growth	CAN	100	Split topdress for Zucchini 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	20	14	30	Typical marketable Zucchini 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 and app.farmlens.africa. Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya. This guide was generated from the FarmLens database.