

# FarmLens Ltd

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



Crop details

## Bambara groundnut

*Vigna subterranea*

Family: Fabaceae

Categories

Legumes & Pulses

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### Quick stats

<b>Family</b>	Fabaceae
<b>Typical harvest</b>	0.8 t/ha
<b>Varieties</b>	1
<b>Pests and diseases</b>	4
<b>Seasons</b>	2

### Crop profile

<b>Growth habit</b>	annual
<b>Days to harvest</b>	100-150
<b>Main uses</b>	Pulse; food security
<b>Pollination</b>	self
<b>Origin and where it grows</b>	Sub-Saharan Africa

### Weather, soil and spacing

<b>Best temperature</b>	22 - 30 °C
<b>Rainfall</b>	500 - 900 mm/yr
<b>Altitude</b>	0 - 1600 m
<b>Best pH</b>	5.5 - 6.8
<b>Soil type</b>	Sandy loam; light soils
<b>Row spacing</b>	60 cm
<b>Plant spacing</b>	30 cm
<b>Planting depth</b>	4 cm
<b>Seed rate</b>	50 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 100-150 days after planting.

**Main use:** Farmers mostly grow this crop for pulse; food security.

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

**Where it grows:** Sub-Saharan Africa. Grouped under: Legumes & Pulses.

**Best climate:** 22 - 30 °C; 500 - 900 mm/yr; up to about 1600 m a.s.l.

**Soil:** Best at pH 5.5 - 6.8; sandy loam; light soils.

### Farmer guide (Mwongozo wa Mkulima)

<b><u>Planting</u></b>	Direct seed into warm, moist soil; inoculate with compatible rhizobia where available; keep weed-free during early growth.
<b><u>Transplanting</u></b>	Not transplanted; direct seeding recommended.
<b><u>Irrigation</u></b>	Moderate water demand; ensure moisture at flowering and pod set; avoid waterlogging.
<b><u>Fertigation</u></b>	Minimal N required due to fixation; supplement P and K on poor soils.
<b><u>Pest scouting</u></b>	Scout weekly for aphids, beetles, and foliar diseases; use sanitation and rotation.
<b><u>Pruning and training</u></b>	Not required; low bush habit.
<b><u>Harvest</u></b>	Harvest when pods are fully filled and leaves begin yellowing; dry pods adequately before shelling.
<b><u>Postharvest</u></b>	Dry to safe moisture; store in airtight containers; control bruchids if present.

### **Nutrient schedule (Mbolea kwa Hatua)**

#	Stage	DAP	Product	Rate	Targets (kg/ha)	Notes
1	Basal	0	DAP 18-46-0	60 kg/ha	N: N/A, P?O?: N/A, K?O: N/A	Band or place below seed; avoid seed burn

### **Nutrient requirements**

Nutrient	Stage	Amount	Unit
P?O?	Basal	25	kg/ha
K?O	Basal	20	kg/ha
N	Topdress	0	kg/ha

### **Field images**



### **Varieties**

Name	Country	Maturity (days)	Traits
Local Bambara	KE	130	Drought tolerant

### **Fertilizer recommendations**

Stage	Product	Rate	Notes
Basal	DAP 18-46-0	60	Reduce if soil P is high

## Pests and diseases

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Symptoms</u>	<u>Management</u>
Aphids	pest	Stunting	Spot sprays; natural enemies
Bruchids (storage)	pest	Holes/larvae in stored grains	Proper drying; hermetic storage; insecticidal dusts where appropriate
Leaf spots	disease	Necrotic foliar lesions	Rotation; sanitation; avoid overhead irrigation
Root rots	disease	Wilting, root decay	Improve drainage; avoid planting in poorly drained fields

## Yields

<u>System</u>	<u>Typical</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Notes</u>
rainfed smallholder	0.8	0.4	1.5	

## Season calendars

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Planting</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
KE	Western	Mar–Apr	Jul–Sep
KE	Eastern (short rains)	Oct–Nov	Jan–Mar

## Region suitability

<u>Country</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Suitability</u>
KE	Eastern (semi-arid pockets)	Medium
KE	Western	High
TZ	Central semi-arid	High
UG	Northern	Medium

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.