WHAT TO GROW IN

# Kwa-Zulu

Port St Johns, OR Tambo, Eastern Cape · Highveld & Midlands

-31.4461, 29.4128 · 594 m above sea level

> Highveld & Midlands climate: most rain falls in summer, with dry winters (about 1037 mm a year). Frost is rare or absent, so tender plants can grow year-round. Soils here are typically slightly acidic (pH 6.0) and clay loam.

## At a glance

**RAINFALL**
1,037 mm
Summer rainfall

**AVERAGE**
18.2 °C
Oceanic / temperate

**FROST**
Frost-free
tender plants all year

**SOIL**
pH 6
Clay loam

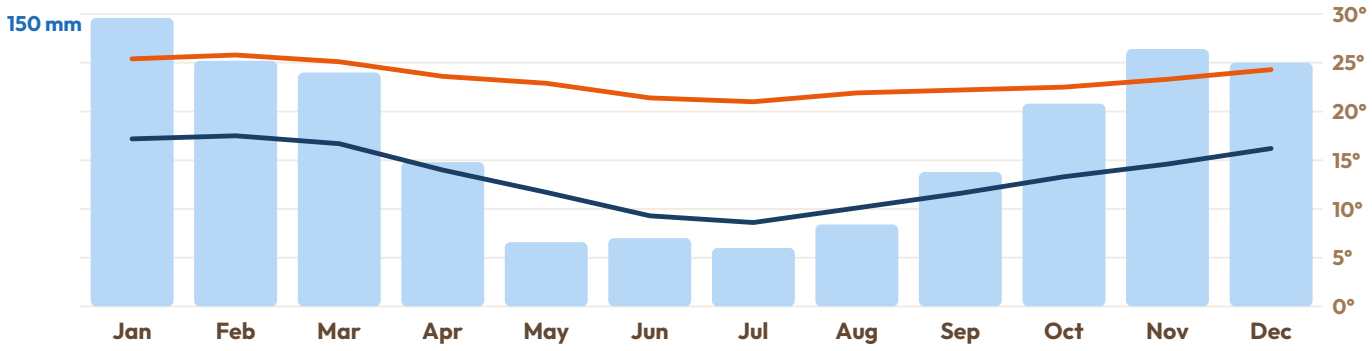
**GROWING ZONE**
Highveld & Midlands
Köppen Cfb

**SUMMER / WINTER**
25.8° / 8.6°
summer days / winter nights

**WINTER CHILL**
13 portions
Low

**HARDINESS ZONE**
10b
coldest night about 4.2 °C

## Climate through the year




| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Day max (°C) | 25.4 | 25.8 | 25.1 | 23.6 | 22.9 | 21.4 | 21 | 21.9 | 22.2 | 22.5 | 23.3 | 24.3 |
| Night min (°C) | 17.2 | 17.5 | 16.7 | 14 | 11.7 | 9.3 | 8.6 | 10.1 | 11.6 | 13.3 | 14.6 | 16.2 |
| Average (°C) | 21.5 | 21.8 | 20.9 | 18.6 | 16.8 | 14.8 | 14.3 | 15.6 | 16.8 | 18 | 19.1 | 20.5 |
| Rain (mm) | 148 | 126 | 120 | 74 | 33 | 35 | 30 | 42 | 69 | 104 | 132 | 125 |
| Humidity (%) | 68 | 67 | 66 | 62 | 57 | 53 | 52 | 56 | 61 | 64 | 65 | 67 |
| Frost chance | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |

### Frost & chill

| | |
|---|---|
| Frost | **Rare or absent** |
| Typical coldest night | **4.2 °C** |
| Hardiness zone | **10b** |
| Winter chill | **13 portions · 159 units** |

Low - choose low-chill peaches, nectarines and plums

### Soil & terrain

| | |
|---|---|
| pH (water) | **6 · Slightly acidic** |
| Texture | **Clay loam** |
| Organic matter | **High** |
| Drainage | **Moderate** |
| Water held (top 60 cm) | **79 mm** |
| Soil group | **Phaeozems** |
| Elevation | **594 m** |
| Slope | **12.4°** |

Fertile and holds water; can be heavy when wet.

Modelled typical soil for this ~1 km² area (SoilGrids). Your own garden can differ - a simple soil test is always worth it.

## What to plant, season by season

Every crop FarmBoss rates Excellent, Good or With care for this spot, listed under the months to plant it out or sow it in place. Seedlings are sown in trays a few weeks earlier (shown in brackets). Effort runs from 1 (very easy) to 5 (expert).

### Any time of year · all year 41 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| **Mint** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | All year | |
| **Rosemary** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | All year | |
| **Rose geranium** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | All year | Warm, wet summer nights here favour fungal disease on rose geranium - choose resistant cul… |
| **Chives** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Lavender** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Lemon balm** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Oregano** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Sage** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Thyme** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lemongrass** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is on the cool side for lemongrass |
| **Tea** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant cuttings | All year | About 1037 mm of rain a year; tea needs roughly 1150 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| **Macadamia** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | All year | |
| **Mulberry** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | All year | |
| **Avocado** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | All year | |
| **Lemon** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | All year | |
| **Lime** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | All year | |
| **Naartjie** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | All year | |
| **Persimmon (sharon fruit)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | All year | |
| **Pomegranate** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | All year | |
| **Grapefruit** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | All year | |
| **Pineapple** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | All year | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is on the cool side for pineapple |
| **Pecan** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | All year | Summers here average about 21.4 °C; pecan needs about 22.5 °C or more in the warmest month... |
| **Olive** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Orange (citrus)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Guava** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is on the cool side for guava |
| **Coffee** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | All year | About 1037 mm of rain a year; coffee needs roughly 1300 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| **Litchi** | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | All year | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for litchi |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Cape gooseberry** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays All year) | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Blueberry** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | All year | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; blueberry prefers 4.2-5.2. Add compost and sulphur to lower i... |
| **Granadilla (passion fruit)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | All year | About 1037 mm of rain a year; granadilla (passion fruit) needs roughly 1200 mm or more - p... |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Chickpea** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Sugar cane** | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant cuttings | All year | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for sugar cane |
| Indigenous & African Crops | | | | | |
| **Kei apple** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | All year | |
| **Sour plum (Ximenia)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | All year | |
| **Wild garlic** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | All year | |
| **Marama bean** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Mobola plum** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Monkey orange** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Num-num (amatungula)** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Wild plum (umgwenya)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | All year | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Marula** | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | All year | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for marula |

## Spring · Sep–Nov 59 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vegetables | | | | | |
| **Cabbage** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug) | Sep | |
| **Celery** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Sep) | Nov | |
| **Chicory (radicchio, witloof)** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| **Kale** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep) | Sep–Oct | |
| **Peas** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep | |
| **Swiss chard (spinach)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | |
| **Green beans (bush)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| **Sweetcorn (green mealies)** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| **Butternut** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| **Baby marrow (courgette)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Beetroot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Brinjal (eggplant)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep) | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Carrot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Chilli** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep) | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Cucumber** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Gem squash** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Lettuce** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep) | Sep–Oct | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Muskmelon (spanspek)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Parsnip** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Pumpkin** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Radish** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Sweet pepper** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Oct) | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Sweet potato** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Tomato** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Oct) | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Turnip** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Watermelon** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **English spinach** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; english spinach prefers 6.5-7.5. Add agricultural lime. |
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| **Rocket** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| **Basil** | Good | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep) | Sep–Oct | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Chamomile (German)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Dill** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Parsley** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Ginger** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant tubers | Sep–Oct | Too cold for much of the growing period |
| **Coriander (dhania)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; coriander (dhania) prefers 6.5-7.5. Add agricultural lime. |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| **Banana** | With care | 2 · Easy | Plant suckers | Sep–Nov | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for banana |
| **Mango** | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for mango |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Sunflower** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| **Maize** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Sorghum** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Pigeon pea** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Soybean** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Nov | |
| **Dry beans** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Groundnut (peanut)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Mung bean** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Pearl millet (babala)** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Potato | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant tubers | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| Amaranth (morogo / imbuya) | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Nov | |
| Spider plant (morogo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Wild medlar | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Nov | |
| Black nightshade (umsobo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Sep–Oct) | Oct–Nov | |
| Blackjack (umhlabangubo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Jew's mallow (thelele) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Wild cucumber | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Bottle gourd (calabash) | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Bambara groundnut | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Cowpea | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Makataan (bitter watermelon) | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Wild rosemary (kapokbos) | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Sep–Nov | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Honeybush | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 70% of the rain here falls in the warm half of the year; honeybush needs winter or y… |

## Summer · Dec–Feb 50 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Vegetables** | | | | | |
| Broccoli | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Dec–Jan) | Jan–Feb | |
| Cabbage | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Nov–Jan) | Dec–Feb | |
| Cauliflower | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Nov–Jan) | Dec–Feb | |
| Celery | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct–Dec) | Dec–Feb | |
| Chicory (radicchio, witloof) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jan–Feb | |
| Kale | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | |
| Kohlrabi | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Swiss chard (spinach)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jan–Feb | |
| **Green beans (bush)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| **Beetroot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Brinjal (eggplant)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct) | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Carrot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jan–Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Chilli** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct) | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Cucumber** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Garlic** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant bulbs or cloves | Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Lettuce** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Okra** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Parsnip** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Jan–Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Radish** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Sweet pepper** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct–Nov) | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Sweet potato** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Tomato** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Nov) | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Turnip** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Herbs | | | | | |
| **Chamomile (German)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jan–Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dill** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Parsley** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Coriander (dhania)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; coriander (dhania) prefers 6.5-7.5. Add agricultural lime. |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| **Banana** | With care | 2 · Easy | Plant suckers | Dec–Feb | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for banana |
| **Mango** | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for mango |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Strawberry** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Dec–Jan) | Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Sunflower** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| **Maize** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| **Sorghum** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| **Pigeon pea** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| **Soybean** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| **Canola** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Dry beans** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Mung bean** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Potato** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant tubers | Dec–Jan | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| **Amaranth (morogo / imbuya)** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| **Spider plant (morogo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| **Wild medlar** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | |
| **Black nightshade (umsobo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Nov–Jan) | Dec–Feb | |
| **Blackjack (umhlabangubo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| **Jew's mallow (thelele)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wild cucumber | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Bottle gourd (calabash) | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| Bambara groundnut | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Cowpea | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Makataan (bitter watermelon) | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |

## Autumn · Mar–May 37 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vegetables | | | | | |
| Broccoli | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb) | Mar | |
| Cabbage | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb) | Mar | |
| Cauliflower | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Mar–Apr | |
| Chicory (radicchio, witloof) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| Kale | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Apr) | Mar–May | |
| Kohlrabi | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Mar–Apr | |
| Brussels sprouts | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Apr) | Apr–May | |
| Broad bean | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Chinese cabbage (pak choi) | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Mar–Apr | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; chinese cabbage (pak choi) prefers 6.5-7.2. Add agricultural... |
| Beetroot | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Carrot | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Garlic | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant bulbs or cloves | Mar–Apr | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Leek | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan–Mar) | Mar–May | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Lettuce | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Mar–Apr | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Onion** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Apr–May | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Parsnip** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Radish** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Turnip** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **English spinach** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; english spinach prefers 6.5-7.5. Add agricultural lime. |
| **Globe artichoke** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant crowns | Mar–May | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; globe artichoke prefers 6.5-7.0. Add agricultural lime. |
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| **Rocket** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| **Chamomile (German)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–May | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Dill** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–May | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Parsley** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Coriander (dhania)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar–May | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; coriander (dhania) prefers 6.5-7.5. Add agricultural lime. |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| **Banana** | With care | 2 · Easy | Plant suckers | Mar–May | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for banana |
| **Mango** | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Mar–May | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for mango |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Strawberry** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan–Feb) | Mar | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Barley** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| **Oats** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| **Wheat** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | May | |
| **Canola** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–May | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dry beans** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| Indigenous & African Crops | | | | | |
| **Spider plant (morogo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar | |
| **Wild medlar** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Mar | |
| **Black nightshade (umsobo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb) | Mar | |
| **Honeybush** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Apr–May | About 70% of the rain here falls in the warm half of the year; honeybush needs winter or y… |

## Winter · Jun–Aug 31 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vegetables | | | | | |
| **Cabbage** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Jul) | Aug | |
| **Chicory (radicchio, witloof)** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | |
| **Kale** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays May–Jul) | Jun–Aug | |
| **Peas** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jul–Aug | |
| **Swiss chard (spinach)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Brussels sprouts** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Apr–May) | Jun | |
| **Green beans (bush)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Asparagus** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Beetroot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Carrot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Parsnip** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Radish** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Turnip** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **English spinach** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Aug | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; english spinach prefers 6.5-7.5. Add agricultural lime. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Rhubarb** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too hot for rhubarb |
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| **Rocket** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | |
| **Chamomile (German)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Dill** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Coriander (dhania)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | Typical soil pH here is 6.0; coriander (dhania) prefers 6.5-7.5. Add agricultural lime. |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| **Fig** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | |
| **Mango** | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Jun, Aug | Average temperature of 18.2 °C is too cool for mango |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Raspberry** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Table grape** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Barley** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | |
| **Oats** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | |
| **Sunflower** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Wheat** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Jun–Jul | |
| **Canola** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun–Jul | |
| **Dry beans** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Potato** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant tubers | Aug | Soils here are mostly heavy clay loam; add plenty of compost or grow in raised beds. |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| **Honeybush** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Jun–Aug | About 70% of the rain here falls in the warm half of the year; honeybush needs winter or y… |

## Not recommended here

Amadumbe (taro), Apple, Apricot, Baobab, Black pepper, Buchu (round-leaf), Cashew nut, Cassava, Cherry, Coconut palm, Nectarine, Pawpaw (papaya), Peach, Pear, Plum, Rooibos.

**About this report.** FarmBoss models one area of about 1 km² around this point. Climate: CHELSA 1981–2010, corrected to TerraClimate 1991–2020. Soil: ISRIC SoilGrids. Terrain: Copernicus DEM. Crop requirements: South African Department of Agriculture production guidelines and other sources cited on each crop page. Your own garden can differ: microclimate, shade and soil vary over short distances, so a simple soil test is always worth it.

Online version, with every crop's reasons and planting calendar: https://farmboss.co.za/place/kwa-zulu-port-st-johns-985163