WHAT TO GROW IN

Nooitgedacht

Kopanong, Xhariep, Free State · Highveld & Midlands

-29.3905, 25.8833 · 1,409 m above sea level

Highveld & Midlands climate: most rain falls in summer, with dry winters (about 605 mm a year). Expect about 62 frosty nights a year; plant frost-tender crops after 30 September. Soils here are typically neutral (pH 7.5) and sandy clay loam.

At a glance

RAINFALL
605 mm
Summer rainfall

AVERAGE
16 °C
Cold semi-arid (steppe)

FROST
62 nights
safe after 30 September

SOIL
pH 7.5
Sandy clay loam

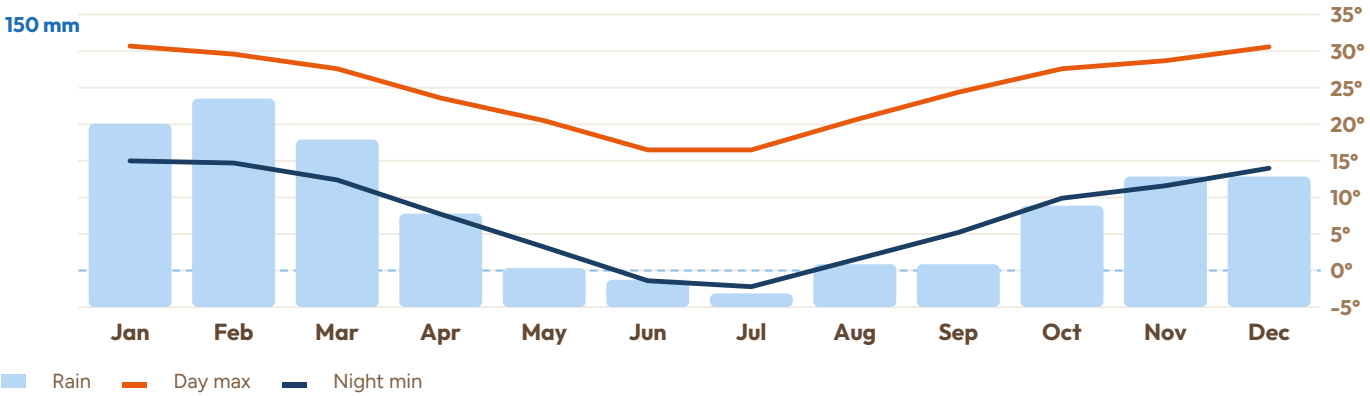
GROWING ZONE
Highveld & Midlands
Köppen BSk

SUMMER / WINTER
30.8° / -2.2°
summer days / winter nights

WINTER CHILL
51 portions
High

HARDINESS ZONE
8b
coldest night about -7.5 °C

Climate through the year



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Day max (°C)	30.7	29.6	27.6	23.6	20.5	16.5	16.5	20.6	24.4	27.6	28.7	30.6
Night min (°C)	15	14.7	12.4	7.7	3.2	-1.4	-2.2	1.5	5.2	9.9	11.6	14
Average (°C)	23	22.1	19.9	15.2	11.2	6.8	6.4	10.7	14.8	18.9	20.5	22.6
Rain (mm)	94	107	86	48	20	14	7	22	22	52	67	67
Humidity (%)	49	51	52	52	50	50	48	45	44	47	47	47
Frost chance	–	–	–	30%	80%	100%	100%	100%	70%	7%	–	–

Frost & chill

Frosty nights a year	62
Last frost usually by	15 September
Safe for tender crops	after 30 September
First autumn frost	~10 May
Frost-free days	237
Typical coldest night	-7.5 °C
Hardiness zone	8b
Winter chill	51 portions · 588 units

High - suits apples, pears and cherries

Soil & terrain

pH (water)	7.5 · Neutral
Texture	Sandy clay loam
Organic matter	Low
Drainage	Well
Water held (top 60 cm)	61 mm
Soil group	Luvisols
Elevation	1,409 m
Slope	1.4°

Fair drainage, reasonable fertility; benefits from organic matter.

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).

Spring · Sep–Nov 61 crops

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Vegetables					
Cucumber	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	
Swiss chard (spinach)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Sep–Oct	
Pumpkin	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	
Baby marrow (courgette)	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	
Watermelon	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	
Radish	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Sep–Oct	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; radish prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Sweetcorn (green mealies)	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; sweetcorn (green mealies) prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and su...
Tomato	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Sep–Oct)	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; tomato prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Chilli	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep)	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chilli prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Gem squash	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; gem squash prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower...

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Green beans (bush)	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; green beans (bush) prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur t...
Muskmelon (spanspek)	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; muskmelon (spanspek) prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and sulphur...
Sweet pepper	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Oct)	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; sweet pepper prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lowe...
Beetroot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Sep–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; beetroot prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Brinjal (eggplant)	Good	5 · Expert	Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep)	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; brinjal (eggplant) prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur t...
Butternut	Good	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; butternut prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower i...
Carrot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Sep	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Okra	Good	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; okra prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Sweet potato	Good	2 · Easy	Plant cuttings	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; sweet potato prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lowe...
Herbs					
Lemon balm	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	
Rosemary	Excellent	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	
Lavender	Excellent	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	
Oregano	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	
Sage	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	
Thyme	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	
Basil	Good	2 · Easy	Seedlings (sow in trays Sep)	Oct	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; basil prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Chives	Good	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chives prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Dill	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Sep–Oct	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; dill prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Mint	Good	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	About 605 mm of rain a year; mint needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Fruit Trees					
Pomegranate	Excellent	2 · Easy	Plant cuttings	Oct–Nov	
Olive	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	
Persimmon (sharon fruit)	Good	2 · Easy	Plant a grafted tree	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; persimmon (sharon fruit) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sul...
Mulberry	Good	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	About 605 mm of rain a year; mulberry needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regular...
Pecan	Good	3 · Moderate	Plant a grafted tree	Oct–Nov	About 605 mm of rain a year; pecan needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly
Naartjie	With care	4 · Challenging	Plant a grafted tree	Oct–Nov	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages naartjie
Berries & Vines					
Blueberry	Good	5 · Expert	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5, far above the 4.2-5.2 that blueberry needs. Grow it in a rais...
Field Crops					
Sunflower	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Sep–Nov	
Sorghum	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	
Pearl millet (babala)	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	
Mung bean	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Nov	
Groundnut (peanut)	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; groundnut (peanut) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur t...
Maize	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; maize prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Pigeon pea	Good	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; pigeon pea prefers 5.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower...
Soybean	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; soybean prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Potato	Good	4 · Challenging	Plant tubers	Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; potato prefers 5.2-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Indigenous & African Crops					
Amaranth (morogo / imbuya)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	
Black nightshade (umsobo)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Seedlings (sow in trays Sep–Oct)	Oct–Nov	

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
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	
Wild rosemary (kapokbos)	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Plant cuttings	Sep–Nov	
Wild garlic	Good	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -7 °C that damages wild garlic
Makataan (bitter watermelon)	Good	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; makataan (bitter watermelon) prefers 5.6-7.0. Add compost and...
Spider plant (morogo)	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; spider plant (morogo) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphu...
Bambara groundnut	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; bambara groundnut prefers 5.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to...
Cowpea	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; cowpea prefers 5.6-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Marama bean	With care	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Oct–Nov	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages marama bean
Wild medlar	With care	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Nov	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages wild medlar
Kei apple	With care	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages kei apple
Num-num (amatungula)	With care	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Oct–Nov	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages num-num (amatungul...

Summer · Dec–Feb 60 crops

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Vegetables					
Cucumber	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Dec	
Swiss chard (spinach)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Jan–Feb	
Parsnip	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Jan–Feb	
Chinese cabbage (pak choi)	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Jan)	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chinese cabbage (pak choi) prefers 6.5-7.2. Add compost and s...

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Chicory (radicchio, witloof)	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chicory (radicchio, witloof) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and...
Garlic	Good	2 · Easy	Plant bulbs or cloves	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; garlic prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Tomato	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Nov)	Dec	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; tomato prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Cauliflower	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Dec–Jan)	Jan–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; cauliflower prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower...
Chilli	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Oct)	Dec	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chilli prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Green beans (bush)	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec–Jan	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; green beans (bush) prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur t...
Kohlrabi	Good	2 · Easy	Seedlings (sow in trays Jan)	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; kohlrabi prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Lettuce	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Jan)	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; lettuce prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Sweet pepper	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Oct–Nov)	Dec	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; sweet pepper prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lowe...
Beetroot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Dec–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; beetroot prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Brinjal (eggplant)	Good	5 · Expert	Seedlings (sow in trays Oct)	Dec	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; brinjal (eggplant) prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur t...
Broccoli	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Dec–Jan)	Jan–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; broccoli prefers 6.0-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Cabbage	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Dec–Jan)	Jan–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; cabbage prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Carrot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Jan–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Celery	Good	5 · Expert	Seedlings (sow in trays Nov–Dec)	Jan–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; celery prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Kale	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Jan)	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; kale prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Okra	Good	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Dec	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; okra prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Herbs					
Lemon balm	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	
Rosemary	Excellent	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	
Chamomile (German)	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Jan–Feb	
Oregano	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	
Sage	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	
Thyme	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	
Chives	Good	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chives prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Parsley	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; parsley prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Dill	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Jan–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; dill prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Mint	Good	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	About 605 mm of rain a year; mint needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly
Fruit Trees					
Pomegranate	Excellent	2 · Easy	Plant cuttings	Dec–Jan	
Olive	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	
Persimmon (sharon fruit)	Good	2 · Easy	Plant a grafted tree	Dec–Jan	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; persimmon (sharon fruit) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sul…
Mulberry	Good	1 · Very easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	About 605 mm of rain a year; mulberry needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regular…
Pecan	Good	3 · Moderate	Plant a grafted tree	Dec–Jan	About 605 mm of rain a year; pecan needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly
Naartjie	With care	4 · Challenging	Plant a grafted tree	Dec–Jan	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages naartjie
Berries & Vines					
Blueberry	Good	5 · Expert	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	Typical soil pH here is 7.5, far above the 4.2-5.2 that blueberry needs. Grow it in a rais…
Strawberry	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Dec–Jan)	Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; strawberry prefers 5.6-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower…
Field Crops					

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Sunflower	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec	
Sorghum	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec	
Mung bean	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Dec	
Chickpea	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Jan	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chickpea prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Soybean	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; soybean prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Canola	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Dec	Hot days above 27 °C will stress the plants
Dry beans	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Jan	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; dry beans prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower i...
Indigenous & African Crops					
Amaranth (morogo / imbuya)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec–Jan	
Black nightshade (umsobo)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Seedlings (sow in trays Nov–Dec)	Dec–Jan	
Blackjack (umhlabangubo)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec–Jan	
Jew's mallow (thelele)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec–Jan	
Wild cucumber	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Dec–Jan	
Bottle gourd (calabash)	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Dec	
Wild garlic	Good	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -7 °C that damages wild garlic
Makataan (bitter watermelon)	Good	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Dec	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; makataan (bitter watermelon) prefers 5.6-7.0. Add compost and...
Spider plant (morogo)	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec–Feb	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; spider plant (morogo) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphu...
Cowpea	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Dec–Jan	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; cowpea prefers 5.6-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Marama bean	With care	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Dec–Jan	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages marama bean
Wild medlar	With care	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Feb	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages wild medlar
Kei apple	With care	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages kei apple

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Num-num (amatungula)	With care	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Dec–Jan	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages num-num (amatungul...

Autumn · Mar–May 28 crops

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Vegetables					
English spinach	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar–Apr	
Leek	Excellent	2 · Easy	Seedlings (sow in trays Jan–Mar)	Mar–May	
Parsnip	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Mar	
Broad bean	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Apr–May	Too cold for much of the growing period
Chicory (radicchio, witloof)	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; chicory (radicchio, witloof) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and...
Garlic	Good	2 · Easy	Plant bulbs or cloves	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; garlic prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Globe artichoke	Good	4 · Challenging	Plant crowns	Mar–May	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; globe artichoke prefers 6.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to l...
Radish	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; radish prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Brussels sprouts	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Feb)	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; brussels sprouts prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to...
Kohlrabi	Good	2 · Easy	Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar)	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; kohlrabi prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Lettuce	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Feb)	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; lettuce prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Peas	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; peas prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Beetroot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; beetroot prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Broccoli	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Feb)	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; broccoli prefers 6.0-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Cabbage	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Feb)	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; cabbage prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Carrot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Kale	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar)	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; kale prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Onion	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar)	Apr–May	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; onion prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Turnip	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; turnip prefers 6.0-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Herbs					
Coriander (dhania)	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar–Apr	
Parsley	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; parsley prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Rocket	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; rocket prefers 6.2-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Dill	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Mar–Apr	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; dill prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Berries & Vines					
Strawberry	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Jan–Feb)	Mar	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; strawberry prefers 5.6-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower…
Field Crops					
Wheat	Excellent	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	May	
Barley	Good	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Mar–May	Too cold for much of the growing period
Oats	Good	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Mar–May	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; oats prefers 5.4-6.1. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Indigenous & African Crops					
Wild medlar	With care	2 · Easy	Plant from a pot	Mar	Winter lows of about -8 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages wild medlar

Winter · Jun–Aug 26 crops

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Vegetables					
English spinach	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Aug	
Swiss chard (spinach)	Excellent	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Aug	

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Radish	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; radish prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Asparagus	Good	5 · Expert	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; asparagus prefers 6.0-6.7. Add compost and sulphur to lower i...
Beetroot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; beetroot prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it...
Cabbage	Good	4 · Challenging	Seedlings (sow in trays Jul)	Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; cabbage prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Carrot	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Kale	Good	3 · Moderate	Seedlings (sow in trays Jun)	Jul	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; kale prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Rhubarb	Good	4 · Challenging	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; rhubarb prefers 6.0-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Herbs					
Coriander (dhania)	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Aug	
Chamomile (German)	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Sow in place	Aug	
Rocket	Good	2 · Easy	Sow in place	Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; rocket prefers 6.2-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Dill	Good	3 · Moderate	Sow in place	Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; dill prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Fruit Trees					
Apricot	Excellent	3 · Moderate	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	
Fig	Excellent	1 · Very easy	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	
Nectarine	Good	3 · Moderate	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; nectarine prefers 6.1-7.1. Add compost and sulphur to lower i...
Peach	Good	3 · Moderate	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; peach prefers 6.1-7.1. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Plum	Good	3 · Moderate	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; plum prefers 6.1-7.1. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Apple	Good	5 · Expert	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; apple prefers 5.8-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.

CROP	RATING	EFFORT	HOW	WHEN	WATCH OUT
Cherry	Good	5 · Expert	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; cherry prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.
Pear	Good	4 · Challenging	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	About 605 mm of rain a year; pear needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regularly
Berries & Vines					
Raspberry	Good	4 · Challenging	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; raspberry prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower i…
Table grape	Good	4 · Challenging	Plant a bare-root tree	Jun–Aug	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; table grape prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower…
Field Crops					
Wheat	Excellent	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Jun–Jul	
Barley	Good	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Jun–Jul	Too cold for much of the growing period
Oats	Good	4 · Challenging	Sow in place	Jun–Jul	Typical soil pH here is 7.5; oats prefers 5.4-6.1. Add compost and sulphur to lower it.

Not recommended here

Amadumbe (taro), Avocado, Banana, Baobab, Black pepper, Buchu (round-leaf), Cape gooseberry, Cashew nut, Cassava, Coconut palm, Coffee, Ginger, Granadilla (passion fruit), Grapefruit, Guava, Honeybush, Lemon, Lemongrass, Lime, Litchi, Macadamia, Mango, Marula, Mobola plum, Monkey orange, Orange (citrus), Pawpaw (papaya), Pineapple, Rooibos, Rose geranium, Sour plum (Ximenia), Sugar cane, Tea, Wild plum (umgwenya).

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/nooitgedacht-kopanong-969841