WHAT TO GROW IN

# Sonop

Local Municipality of Madibeng, Bojanala Platinum, North West · Lowveld & Bushveld

-25.6498, 27.6969 · 1,123 m above sea level

> Lowveld & Bushveld climate: most rain falls in summer, with dry winters (about 569 mm a year). Expect about 4 frosty nights a year; plant frost-tender crops after 8 August. Soils here are typically slightly acidic (pH 6.4) and sandy clay loam.

## At a glance

**RAINFALL**
**569 mm**
Summer rainfall

**AVERAGE**
**19.9 °C**
Hot semi-arid (steppe)

**FROST**
**4 nights**
safe after 8 August

**SOIL**
**pH 6.4**
Sandy clay loam

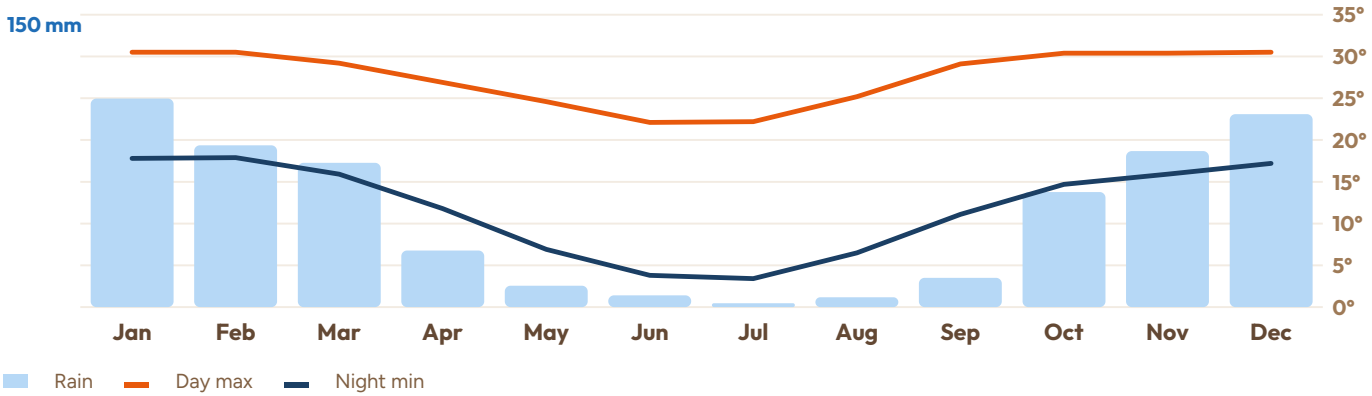
**GROWING ZONE**
**Lowveld & Bushveld**
Köppen BSh

**SUMMER / WINTER**
**30.5° / 3.4°**
summer days / winter nights

**WINTER CHILL**
**11 portions**
Low

**HARDINESS ZONE**
**9b**
coldest night about -1.4 °C

## Climate through the year




| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Day max (°C) | 30.5 | 30.5 | 29.2 | 26.9 | 24.6 | 22.1 | 22.2 | 25.2 | 29.1 | 30.4 | 30.4 | 30.5 |
| Night min (°C) | 17.8 | 17.9 | 15.9 | 11.8 | 6.9 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 6.5 | 11.1 | 14.7 | 15.9 | 17.2 |
| Average (°C) | 24.5 | 24.4 | 22.8 | 19.5 | 15.6 | 12.7 | 12.6 | 15.9 | 20.5 | 22.9 | 23.6 | 24.2 |
| Rain (mm) | 107 | 83 | 74 | 29 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 59 | 80 | 99 |
| Humidity (%) | 55 | 55 | 55 | 54 | 52 | 51 | 49 | 48 | 47 | 50 | 53 | 55 |
| Frost chance | – | – | – | – | 13% | 47% | 43% | 13% | – | – | – | – |

### Frost & chill

| | |
|---|---|
| Frosty nights a year | 4 |
| Last frost usually by | 22 July |
| Safe for tender crops | after 8 August |
| First autumn frost | – |
| Frost-free days | 365 |
| Typical coldest night | -1.4 °C |
| Hardiness zone | 9b |
| Winter chill | 11 portions · 136 units |

Low - choose low-chill peaches, nectarines and plums

### Soil & terrain

| | |
|---|---|
| pH (water) | 6.4 · Slightly acidic |
| Texture | Sandy clay loam |
| Organic matter | Medium |
| Drainage | Well |
| Water held (top 60 cm) | 56 mm |
| Soil group | Luvisols |
| Elevation | 1,123 m |
| Slope | 1.1° |

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 72 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Vegetables** | | | | | |
| Sweet potato | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant cuttings | Sep–Nov | |
| Green beans (bush) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep | |
| Sweet pepper | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jul–Oct) | Sep–Nov | |
| Sweetcorn (green mealies) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Cucumber | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep | |
| Okra | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Chilli | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Jul–Sep) | Sep–Nov | |
| Brinjal (eggplant) | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jul–Sep) | Sep–Nov | |
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| Ginger | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Plant tubers | Sep–Oct | |
| Chives | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |
| Lemon balm | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |
| Rosemary | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |
| Basil | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Oct) | Sep–Nov | |
| Oregano | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |
| Lavender | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Sep | |
| Sage | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Thyme | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |
| Lemongrass | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; lemongrass needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regul... |
| Mint | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; mint needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Rose geranium | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Sep–Nov | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages rose geranium |
| Tea | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant cuttings | Sep | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages tea |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| Pomegranate | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Sep–Nov | |
| Persimmon (sharon fruit) | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Oct | About 569 mm of rain a year; persimmon (sharon fruit) needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan... |
| Olive | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; olive needs roughly 650 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Avocado | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; avocado needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| Banana | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant suckers | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; banana needs roughly 1200 mm or more - plan to water regularl... |
| Grapefruit | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; grapefruit needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regul... |
| Guava | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; guava needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Lemon | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; lemon needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Lime | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; lime needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Macadamia | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; macadamia needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regul... |
| Mango | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; mango needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Mulberry | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; mulberry needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regular... |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Naartjie | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; naartjie needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| Orange (citrus) | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; orange (citrus) needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water... |
| Pecan | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; pecan needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Coffee | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages coffee |
| Litchi | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages litchi |
| Pawpaw (papaya) | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | Average temperature of 19.9 °C is too cool for pawpaw (papaya) |
| Pineapple | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 1 °C that damages pineapple |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| Blueberry | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Sep–Oct | Typical soil pH here is 6.4, far above the 4.2-5.2 that blueberry needs. Grow it in a rais... |
| Granadilla (passion fruit) | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; granadilla (passion fruit) needs roughly 1200 mm or more - pl... |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| Maize | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Pearl millet (babala) | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Sorghum | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Sunflower | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Mung bean | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Nov | |
| Pigeon pea | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Groundnut (peanut) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Cassava | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Sep–Nov | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages cassava |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| Amaranth (morogo / imbuya) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Sour plum (Ximenia) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |
| Spider plant (morogo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Wild garlic | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wild medlar | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Nov | |
| Black nightshade (umsobo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Oct) | Sep–Nov | |
| Wild cucumber | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Blackjack (umhlabangubo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Jew's mallow (thelele) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Cowpea | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Makataan (bitter watermelon) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Bottle gourd (calabash) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Marula | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | Oct–Nov | |
| Bambara groundnut | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| Marama bean | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| Num-num (amatungula) | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | |
| Wild rosemary (kapokbos) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Sep | |
| Mobola plum | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the -1 °C that damages mobola plum |
| Monkey orange | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; monkey orange needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water re… |
| Wild plum (umgwenya) | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; wild plum (umgwenya) needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to w… |
| Kei apple | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | About 569 mm of rain a year; kei apple needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regula… |
| Baobab | With care | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Sep–Nov | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages baobab |

## Summer · Dec–Feb 75 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Vegetables** | | | | | |
| Sweet potato | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant cuttings | Dec | |
| Swiss chard (spinach) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Feb | |
| Green beans (bush) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Feb | |
| Sweet pepper | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct–Nov) | Dec | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Baby marrow (courgette)** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Gem squash** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Cucumber** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Pumpkin** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Okra** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| **Chilli** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct) | Dec | |
| **Tomato** | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | |
| **Butternut** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Carrot** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | |
| Herbs | | | | | |
| **Chives** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | |
| **Lemon balm** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | |
| **Rosemary** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | |
| **Basil** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Nov–Jan) | Dec–Feb | |
| **Chamomile (German)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Oregano** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | |
| **Sage** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | |
| **Thyme** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | |
| **Lemongrass** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; lemongrass needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regul… |
| **Mint** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; mint needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Rose geranium** | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Feb | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages rose geranium |
| Fruit Trees | | | | | |
| **Pomegranate** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Dec–Feb | |
| **Olive** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; olive needs roughly 650 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Avocado** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; avocado needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regular… |
| **Banana** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant suckers | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; banana needs roughly 1200 mm or more - plan to water regularl… |
| **Grapefruit** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; grapefruit needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regul… |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Guava** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; guava needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Lemon** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; lemon needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Lime** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; lime needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Macadamia** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; macadamia needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regul... |
| **Mango** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; mango needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Mulberry** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; mulberry needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| **Naartjie** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; naartjie needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| **Orange (citrus)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; orange (citrus) needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water... |
| **Pecan** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; pecan needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Coffee** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages coffee |
| **Litchi** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages litchi |
| **Pawpaw (papaya)** | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | Average temperature of 19.9 °C is too cool for pawpaw (papaya) |
| **Pineapple** | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Dec | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 1 °C that damages pineapple |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Cape gooseberry** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct) | Dec | 20% chance of frost during this growing period |
| **Granadilla (passion fruit)** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; granadilla (passion fruit) needs roughly 1200 mm or more - pl... |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Maize** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| **Sorghum** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sunflower | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| Dry beans | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | |
| Mung bean | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec | |
| Pigeon pea | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| Canola | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | |
| Soybean | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jan | |
| Sugar cane | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant cuttings | Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; sugar cane needs roughly 1100 mm or more - plan to water regu… |
| Cassava | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Dec–Feb | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages cassava |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| Amaranth (morogo / imbuya) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Sour plum (Ximenia) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | |
| Spider plant (morogo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Wild garlic | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Feb | |
| Wild medlar | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | |
| Black nightshade (umsobo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Dec–Jan) | Jan–Feb | |
| Wild cucumber | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Blackjack (umhlabangubo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Jew's mallow (thelele) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Cowpea | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Makataan (bitter watermelon) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| Bottle gourd (calabash) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| Marula | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | Dec | |
| Bambara groundnut | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| Marama bean | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | |
| Num-num (amatungula) | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | |
| Mobola plum | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the -1 °C that damages mobola plum |
| Monkey orange | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; monkey orange needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water re… |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wild plum (umgwenya) | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; wild plum (umgwenya) needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to w… |
| Kei apple | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | About 569 mm of rain a year; kei apple needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regula… |
| Baobab | With care | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages baobab |

## Autumn · Mar–May 43 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vegetables | | | | | |
| Beetroot | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| 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 Mar–Apr) | Apr–May | |
| Leek | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Mar) | May | |
| Peas | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Radish | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| Swiss chard (spinach) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| Green beans (bush) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | |
| Cabbage | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Apr) | Mar–May | |
| Broccoli | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Apr) | Mar–May | |
| Celery | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Apr–May | |
| Sweet pepper | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Mar | |
| Baby marrow (courgette) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar | |
| Gem squash | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar | |
| Cucumber | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar | |
| Broad bean | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Tomato | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb) | Mar | |
| Cauliflower | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Mar–Apr | |
| Chinese cabbage (pak choi) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Apr) | Mar–May | |
| English spinach | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Carrot | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| Garlic | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Plant bulbs or cloves | Apr | |
| Lettuce | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Mar–Apr) | Apr–May | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Onion | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Apr–May | |
| Parsnip | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | |
| Turnip | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Globe artichoke | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Plant crowns | Mar–May | |
| Brussels sprouts | Good | 5 · Expert | Seedlings (sow in trays Mar) | Apr | Hot days above 26 °C will stress the plants |
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| Dill | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| Parsley | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| Rocket | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Coriander (dhania) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Chamomile (German) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| Strawberry | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Mar–Apr | |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| Chickpea | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–May | |
| Wheat | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Apr–May | |
| Barley | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Apr | |
| Canola | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar | |
| Oats | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Apr | |
| Sugar cane | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant cuttings | Mar–Apr | About 569 mm of rain a year; sugar cane needs roughly 1100 mm or more - plan to water regu… |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| Spider plant (morogo) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar | |
| Wild medlar | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Mar | |

## Winter · Jun–Aug 79 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Vegetables** | | | | | |
| Beetroot | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | |
| Kohlrabi | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays May) | Jun | |
| Leek | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Apr) | Jun | |
| Peas | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun | |
| Radish | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | |
| Swiss chard (spinach) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun–Jul | |
| Green beans (bush) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Cabbage | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays May) | Jun | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sweetcorn (green mealies) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Baby marrow (courgette) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Gem squash | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Cucumber | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Pumpkin | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Tomato | Excellent | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jul) | Aug | |
| Butternut | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Watermelon | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | |
| English spinach | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun | |
| Carrot | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun–Jul | |
| Lettuce | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays May) | Jun | |
| Muskmelon (spanspek) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | |
| Turnip | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun | |
| Asparagus | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; asparagus needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regula… |
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| Dill | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun–Aug | |
| Rocket | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun–Jul | |
| Coriander (dhania) | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jun–Jul | |
| Chives | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| Lemon balm | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| Rosemary | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| Basil | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Jul) | Aug | |
| Chamomile (German) | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jun | |
| Oregano | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| Lavender | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| Sage | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| Thyme | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| Lemongrass | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; lemongrass needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regul… |
| Mint | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; mint needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Rose geranium | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages rose geranium |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tea | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant cuttings | Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages tea |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| Fig | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | |
| Pomegranate | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Aug | |
| Persimmon (sharon fruit) | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; persimmon (sharon fruit) needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan... |
| Olive | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; olive needs roughly 650 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Avocado | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; avocado needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| Banana | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant suckers | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; banana needs roughly 1200 mm or more - plan to water regularl... |
| Grapefruit | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; grapefruit needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regul... |
| Guava | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; guava needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Lemon | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; lemon needs roughly 800 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Lime | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; lime needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Macadamia | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; macadamia needs roughly 1000 mm or more - plan to water regul... |
| Mango | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; mango needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| Mulberry | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; mulberry needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| Naartjie | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; naartjie needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| Orange (citrus) | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; orange (citrus) needs roughly 900 mm or more - plan to water... |
| Pecan | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; pecan needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Coffee** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages coffee |
| **Litchi** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages litchi |
| **Pawpaw (papaya)** | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Aug | Average temperature of 19.9 °C is too cool for pawpaw (papaya) |
| **Pineapple** | With care | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Jul–Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 1 °C that damages pineapple |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Table grape** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | |
| **Raspberry** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; raspberry needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water regula… |
| **Blueberry** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Aug | Typical soil pH here is 6.4, far above the 4.2-5.2 that blueberry needs. Grow it in a rais… |
| **Granadilla (passion fruit)** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; granadilla (passion fruit) needs roughly 1200 mm or more - pl… |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Maize** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Sorghum** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Sunflower** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Cassava** | With care | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages cassava |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| **Sour plum (Ximenia)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| **Wild garlic** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| **Black nightshade (umsobo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Jul) | Aug | |
| **Wild cucumber** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Bottle gourd (calabash)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Marama bean** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | |
| **Num-num (amatungula)** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | |
| **Wild rosemary (kapokbos)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Aug | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mobola plum** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant from a pot | Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the -1 °C that damages mobola plum |
| **Monkey orange** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; monkey orange needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water re… |
| **Wild plum (umgwenya)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; wild plum (umgwenya) needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to w… |
| **Kei apple** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | About 569 mm of rain a year; kei apple needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regula… |
| **Baobab** | With care | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Aug | Winter lows of about -1 °C are close to or below the 0 °C that damages baobab |

## Not recommended here

Amadumbe (taro), Apple, Apricot, Black pepper, Buchu (round-leaf), Cashew nut, Cherry, Coconut palm, Honeybush, Nectarine, Peach, Pear, Plum, Potato, Rhubarb, 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/sonop-local-municipality-of-madibeng-954054