WHAT TO GROW IN

# Waterkloof

Kopanong, Xhariep, Free State · Highveld & Midlands

-30.3098, 25.2971 · 1,327 m above sea level

Highveld & Midlands climate: most rain falls in summer, with dry winters (about 427 mm a year). Expect about 49 frosty nights a year; plant frost-tender crops after 23 September. Soils here are typically alkaline (pH 7.6) and sandy clay loam.

## At a glance

**RAINFALL**
427 mm
Summer rainfall

**AVERAGE**
16.6 °C
Cold semi-arid (steppe)

**FROST**
49 nights
safe after 23 September

**SOIL**
pH 7.6
Sandy clay loam

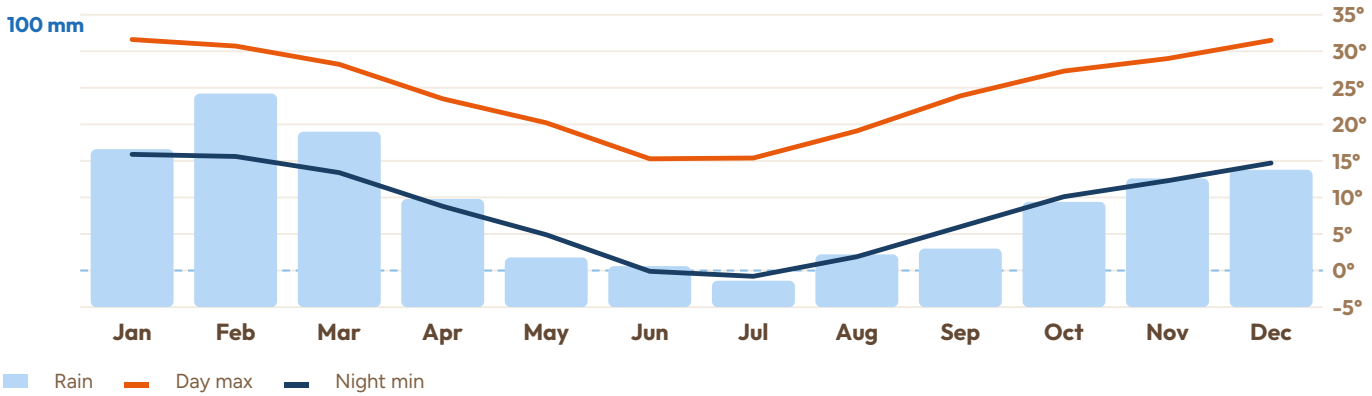
**GROWING ZONE**
Highveld & Midlands
Köppen BSk

**SUMMER / WINTER**
31.7° / -0.8°
summer days / winter nights

**WINTER CHILL**
54 portions
High

**HARDINESS ZONE**
8b
coldest night about -7 °C

## Climate through the year




| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Day max (°C) | 31.6 | 30.7 | 28.2 | 23.5 | 20.2 | 15.3 | 15.4 | 19.1 | 23.9 | 27.3 | 29 | 31.5 |
| Night min (°C) | 15.9 | 15.6 | 13.4 | 8.8 | 4.9 | -0.1 | -0.8 | 1.9 | 6 | 10.1 | 12.3 | 14.7 |
| Average (°C) | 24.1 | 23.2 | 20.7 | 15.9 | 12 | 7 | 6.7 | 10.2 | 15.1 | 19.1 | 21.2 | 23.5 |
| Rain (mm) | 54 | 73 | 60 | 37 | 17 | 14 | 9 | 18 | 20 | 36 | 44 | 47 |
| Humidity (%) | 48 | 50 | 51 | 51 | 50 | 50 | 49 | 46 | 45 | 47 | 47 | 47 |
| Frost chance | – | – | – | 10% | 70% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 50% | – | – | – |

## Frost & chill

| | |
|---|---|
| Frosty nights a year | 49 |
| Last frost usually by | 11 September |
| Safe for tender crops | after 23 September |
| First autumn frost | ~28 May |
| Frost-free days | 259 |
| Typical coldest night | -7 °C |
| Hardiness zone | 8b |
| Winter chill | 54 portions · 808 units |

High - suits apples, pears and cherries

## Soil & terrain

| | |
|---|---|
| pH (water) | 7.6 · Alkaline |
| Texture | Sandy clay loam |
| Organic matter | Low |
| Drainage | Well |
| Water held (top 60 cm) | 61 mm |
| Soil group | Luvisols |
| Elevation | 1,327 m |
| Slope | 0.9° |

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 59 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Vegetables** | | | | | |
| **Baby marrow (courgette)** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Cucumber** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Pumpkin** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Swiss chard (spinach)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | |
| **Watermelon** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Radish** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; 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 7.6; tomato prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Beetroot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; brinjal (eggplant) prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur t... |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Butternut** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; butternut prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower i... |
| **Carrot** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Sep | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Chilli** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Sep) | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; chilli prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Gem squash** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; gem squash prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower... |
| **Green beans (bush)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; green beans (bush) prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur t... |
| **Muskmelon (spanspek)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; muskmelon (spanspek) prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and sulphur... |
| **Okra** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; okra prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Sweet pepper** | Good | 5 · Expert | Seedlings (sow in trays Aug–Oct) | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; sweet pepper prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lowe... |
| **Sweet potato** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant cuttings | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; sweet potato prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lowe... |
| Herbs | | | | | |
| **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 | |
| **Rosemary** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Oct–Nov | About 427 mm of rain a year; rosemary needs roughly 500 mm or more - plan to water regular... |
| **Lemon balm** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Oct–Nov | About 427 mm of rain a year; lemon balm needs roughly 500 mm or more - plan to water regul... |
| **Basil** | Good | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Sep) | Oct | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; chives prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dill** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Oct | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; dill prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Mint** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; mint prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| **Pomegranate** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Oct–Nov | |
| **Mulberry** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Oct–Nov | About 427 mm of rain a year; mulberry needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regular… |
| **Olive** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Oct–Nov | About 427 mm of rain a year; olive needs roughly 650 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Pecan** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | Oct–Nov | About 427 mm of rain a year; pecan needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Persimmon (sharon fruit)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; persimmon (sharon fruit) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sul… |
| **Naartjie** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Oct–Nov | Winter lows of about -7 °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 7.6, far above the 4.2-5.2 that blueberry needs. Grow it in a rais… |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Pearl millet (babala)** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Sorghum** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Sunflower** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Sep–Nov | |
| **Mung bean** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; mung bean prefers 6.3-7.2. Add compost and sulphur to lower i… |
| **Groundnut (peanut)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; groundnut (peanut) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur t… |
| **Maize** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; maize prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Pigeon pea** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; pigeon pea prefers 5.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower… |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |
| **Jew's mallow (thelele)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Wild cucumber** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Blackjack (umhlabangubo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **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 | |
| **Bottle gourd (calabash)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | |
| **Wild rosemary (kapokbos)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Sep–Nov | |
| **Wild garlic** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Oct–Nov | |
| **Makataan (bitter watermelon)** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; spider plant (morogo) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphu... |
| **Bambara groundnut** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; bambara groundnut prefers 5.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to... |
| **Cowpea** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; cowpea prefers 5.6-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Marama bean** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Oct–Nov | Winter lows of about -7 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages marama bean |
| **Wild medlar** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Nov | Winter lows of about -7 °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 -7 °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 -7 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages num-num (amatungul... |

## Summer · Dec–Feb 61 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 | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Jan–Feb | |
| **Garlic** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant bulbs or cloves | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; garlic prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tomato** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Nov) | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; tomato prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Beetroot** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; brinjal (eggplant) prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur t... |
| **Broccoli** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; cabbage prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Carrot** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Jan–Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Celery** | Good | 5 · Expert | Seedlings (sow in trays Dec) | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; celery prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Chilli** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct) | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; chilli prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Chinese cabbage (pak choi)** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; chinese cabbage (pak choi) prefers 6.5-7.2. Add compost and s... |
| **Green beans (bush)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; green beans (bush) prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur t... |
| **Kale** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; kale prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Kohlrabi** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan) | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; kohlrabi prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it... |
| **Okra** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; okra prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Peas** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; peas prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Sweet pepper** | Good | 5 · Expert | Seedlings (sow in trays Oct–Nov) | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; sweet pepper prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lowe... |
| Herbs | | | | | |
| **Chamomile (German)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Feb | |
| **Oregano** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Sage** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | |
| **Thyme** | Excellent | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | |
| **Rosemary** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | About 427 mm of rain a year; rosemary needs roughly 500 mm or more - plan to water regular… |
| **Lemon balm** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | About 427 mm of rain a year; lemon balm needs roughly 500 mm or more - plan to water regul… |
| **Chives** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; chives prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Parsley** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; parsley prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Dill** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Feb | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; dill prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Mint** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; mint prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| **Pomegranate** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant cuttings | Dec–Jan | |
| **Mulberry** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | About 427 mm of rain a year; mulberry needs roughly 700 mm or more - plan to water regular… |
| **Olive** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | About 427 mm of rain a year; olive needs roughly 650 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Pecan** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Jan | About 427 mm of rain a year; pecan needs roughly 750 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Persimmon (sharon fruit)** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a grafted tree | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; persimmon (sharon fruit) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sul… |
| **Naartjie** | With care | 5 · Expert | Plant a grafted tree | Dec–Jan | Winter lows of about -7 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages naartjie |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Blueberry** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant from a pot | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6, 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 7.6; strawberry prefers 5.6-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower… |
| **Field Crops** | | | | | |
| **Sorghum** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| **Sunflower** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mung bean** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; mung bean prefers 6.3-7.2. Add compost and sulphur to lower i... |
| **Canola** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Dec | Too hot for much of the growing period |
| **Chickpea** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; chickpea prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it... |
| **Maize** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; maize prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Pigeon pea** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; pigeon pea prefers 5.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower... |
| **Dry beans** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Jan | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; dry beans prefers 5.8-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower i... |
| **Soybean** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; soybean prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| Indigenous & African Crops | | | | | |
| **Jew's mallow (thelele)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| **Wild cucumber** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| **Blackjack (umhlabangubo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| **Amaranth (morogo / imbuya)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | |
| **Black nightshade (umsobo)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Seedlings (sow in trays Nov–Jan) | Dec–Feb | |
| **Bottle gourd (calabash)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | |
| **Wild garlic** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | |
| **Makataan (bitter watermelon)** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; spider plant (morogo) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphu... |
| **Bambara groundnut** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Dec | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; bambara groundnut prefers 5.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to... |
| **Cowpea** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; cowpea prefers 5.6-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Marama bean** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Dec–Jan | Winter lows of about -7 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages marama bean |
| **Wild medlar** | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Feb | Winter lows of about -7 °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 -7 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages kei apple |
| **Num-num (amatungula)** | With care | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Dec–Jan | Winter lows of about -7 °C are close to or below the -5 °C that damages num-num (amatungul… |

## Autumn · Mar–May 29 crops

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vegetables | | | | | |
| **English spinach** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | |
| **Leek** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Jan–Mar) | Mar–May | |
| **Parsnip** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | 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 7.6; chicory (radicchio, witloof) prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and… |
| **Garlic** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant bulbs or cloves | Mar–Apr | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; garlic prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Radish** | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; radish 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 7.6; 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 7.6; broccoli prefers 6.0-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it… |
| **Brussels sprouts** | Good | 5 · Expert | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb) | Mar | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; brussels sprouts prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to… |
| **Cabbage** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb) | Mar | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; cabbage prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Carrot** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Globe artichoke** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant crowns | Mar–May | About 427 mm of rain a year; globe artichoke needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water… |
| **Kale** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Apr) | Mar–May | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; kale prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Kohlrabi** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Mar–Apr | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; kohlrabi prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it… |
| **Lettuce** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb) | Mar | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; lettuce prefers 5.5-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Onion** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Seedlings (sow in trays Feb–Mar) | Apr–May | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; onion prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Peas** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; peas prefers 6.0-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Turnip** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; turnip prefers 6.0-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Herbs** | | | | | |
| **Coriander (dhania)** | Excellent | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | |
| **Chamomile (German)** | Excellent | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Mar | |
| **Parsley** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Mar–Apr | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; 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 7.6; 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 7.6; 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 hot for much of the growing period |
| **Oats** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Mar–May | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; oats prefers 5.4-6.1. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Indigenous & African Crops** | | | | | |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wild medlar | Good | 2 · Easy | Plant from a pot | Mar | Winter lows of about -7 °C are close to or below the -6 °C that damages wild medlar |

## Winter · Jun–Aug 27 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 | |
| Radish | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; 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 7.6; 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 7.6; cabbage prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| Carrot | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; carrot prefers 6.0-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| Kale | Good | 3 · Moderate | Seedlings (sow in trays May–Jun) | Jun–Jul | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; rhubarb prefers 6.0-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| Turnip | Good | 3 · Moderate | Sow in place | Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; turnip 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 | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Jul–Aug | |
| Rocket | Good | 2 · Easy | Sow in place | Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 7.6; dill prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Fruit Trees** | | | | | |
| Apricot | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 427 mm of rain a year; apricot needs roughly 500 mm or more - plan to water regularl... |

| CROP | RATING | EFFORT | HOW | WHEN | WATCH OUT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Fig** | Good | 1 · Very easy | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 427 mm of rain a year; fig needs roughly 500 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Apple** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; apple prefers 5.8-6.8. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Cherry** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; cherry prefers 5.5-6.5. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Nectarine** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 427 mm of rain a year; nectarine needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water regula… |
| **Peach** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 427 mm of rain a year; peach needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Pear** | Good | 5 · Expert | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; pear prefers 5.8-7.0. Add compost and sulphur to lower it. |
| **Plum** | Good | 3 · Moderate | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 427 mm of rain a year; plum needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water regularly |
| **Berries & Vines** | | | | | |
| **Raspberry** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | About 427 mm of rain a year; raspberry needs roughly 600 mm or more - plan to water regula… |
| **Table grape** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Plant a bare-root tree | Jun–Aug | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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 hot for much of the growing period |
| **Oats** | Good | 4 · Challenging | Sow in place | Jun–Jul | Typical soil pH here is 7.6; 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, Cauliflower, 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, Potato, 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/waterkloof-kopanong-941727