

Harvest / post-harvest



- Harvest when husks are dry, or when the grain has a black ring where it is attached to cob.
- Dry cobs on a tarpaulin or clean surface for 3-5 days.
- Remove cobs from the husks by hand or by machine. Leave or return stover to the field to improve soil fertility for the next planting season.
- Winnow and then sort to remove damaged grain and foreign material. Broken grain attracts pests.
- Apply *Actellic Super* to control storage pests like weevils and the great grain borer.
- Place grain in bags and place the bags on raised platforms in a ventilated room.
- For higher income, sell at the right time when the market price is good.

This leaflet was produced by the Maruku Agricultural Research Institute (ARI Maruku), Bukoba, Tanzania. The content was developed as a result of partnership between ARI Maruku, The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and the Africa Soil Health Consortium (ASHC). It is available on the ASHC website as Creative Commons material which can be reproduced and re-used without permission (www.cabi.org/ashc) - provided these organizations are credited.

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Better maize yields

through good agricultural practices

Working in partnership to create down-to-earth messages on integrated soil fertility management



Guidelines for Tanzania

Land preparation



- Select field with moderate to high fertility.
- Prepare the field by breaking soil into medium lumps.
- Plough in crop residues and vegetation to improve soil fertility.
- If soil is acidic, broadcast 5 bags (50 kg bags) of agricultural lime per acre.



Planting



- Plant at the start of the rainy season.
- Use improved varieties (e.g. *Kilima* or *medium altitude Pannar*).
- Mark rows 90 cm apart, make holes 60 cm apart within rows.
- Apply either DAP or Minjingu Mazao, or both TSP and CAN, to each planting hole (see table below for amounts).
- Cover the hole with soil 1 cm deep after applying fertilizer.
- Plant 2 seeds per hole and cover with soil.

Fertilizer should not come into contact with plant

Type of fertilizer at planting	No. of bags per acre	No. of level soda bottle tops per hole
TSP/DAP	1	1½
Minjingu mazao	2	3
CAN (if TSP is applied)	2	3

Field management



- Keep field free from weeds. First weeding can be 2-3 weeks after emergence. Weeding can be repeated once or twice thereafter.
- Top dress 4-5 weeks after crop emergence.
- Make a small hole 10 cm away from the plant, place CAN or Urea fertilizer and cover.
- If growing maize for seed production, uproot infected plants and those that look different from the rest.
- Control stalk borers with a recommended pesticide (e.g. *Bulldog*). If needed, seek advice about when and how to use pesticides from your extension officer.

Type of fertilizer after crop emergence	No. of bags per acre	No. of level soda bottle tops per hole
CAN	2	3
Urea (if Minjingu Mazao is applied)	2	3
Urea (if DAP is applied)	1	1½