

10–17 Nov 2025 Weekly Ugandan Agriculture, Food Market, and Farming Weather Report

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Executive Summary (10–17 Nov 2025)

Uganda's second rainy season is in full swing in most regions, bringing above-average rainfall to central, western, and eastern areas while the northeast (Karamoja) transitions into its dry season. Farmers nationwide are wrapping up harvests of staples like maize, beans, and millet, which has eased prices slightly from mid-year peaks. Thanks to these new harvests, staple food prices have stabilized or dipped in many markets, offering consumers modest relief. However, pockets of food insecurity persist, especially among vulnerable groups, as highlighted by a recent assessment showing more families skipping meals than last year. The government and partners are responding with increased food assistance and agricultural support.

Heavy rainfall has caused localized flooding and minor landslides in some highland and lakeshore districts, prompting authorities to repair roads and advise caution. Meanwhile, Karamoja and parts of northern Uganda are drying out, marking the start of the off-season – a time for farmers there to focus on post-harvest storage and land preparation for the next planting cycle. Going forward, **farmers should take advantage of the current rains to plant short-cycle crops or collect water, but also be ready for a potentially extended wet season.**

Overall, the week's outlook is one of cautious optimism: better food availability from recent harvests and active interventions to address weather and market challenges. With good post-harvest practices and vigilance against pest outbreaks (like Fall Armyworm), farming communities can safeguard their gains and prepare for the next season.

Price Trend

Staple grain prices have eased slightly with the new harvest arrival (e.g. maize down from earlier highs), while livestock prices remain stable and strong.

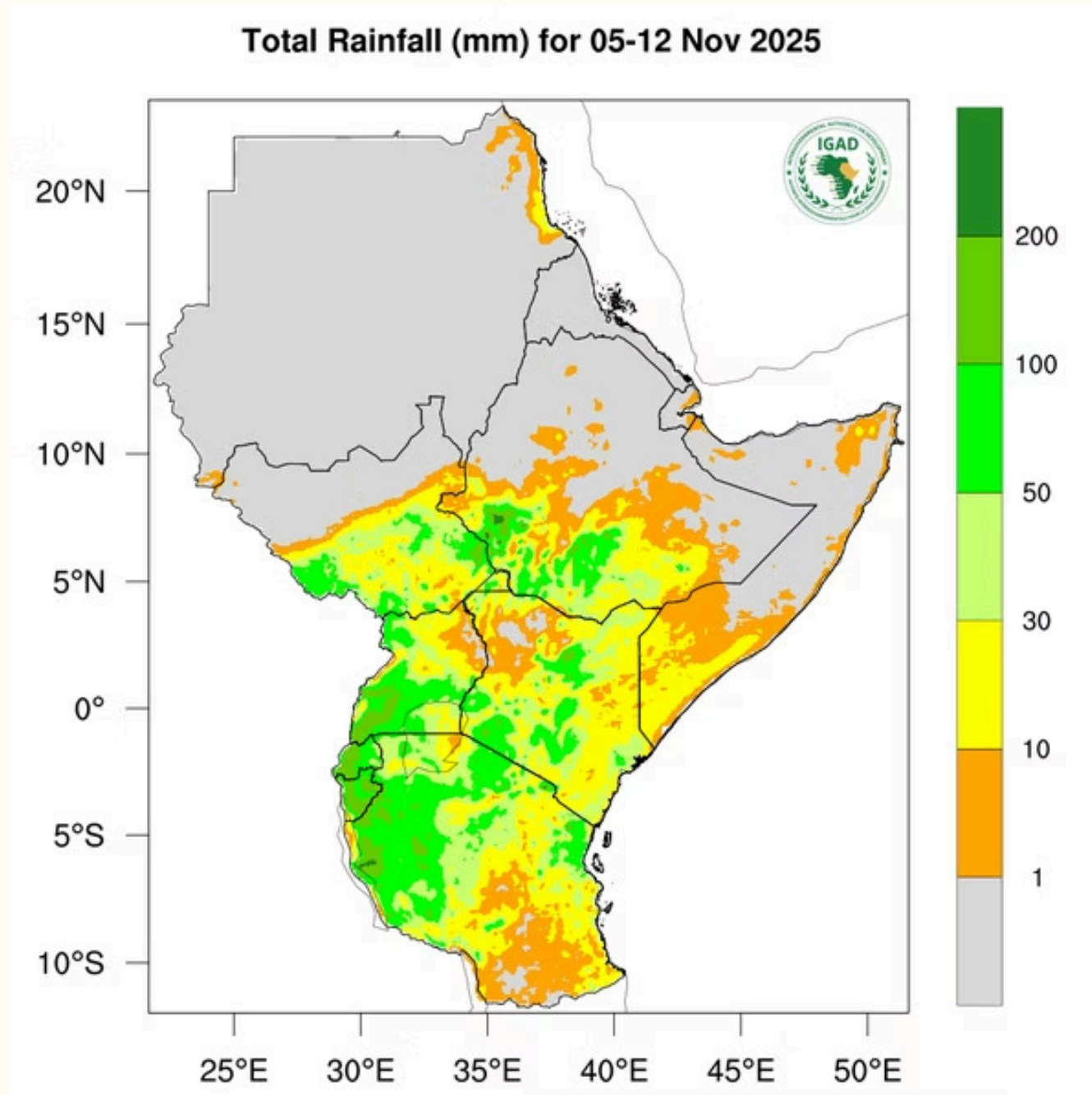
Rainfall Hazard

Above-normal rains are causing waterlogging and flood pockets in parts of western, central, and eastern Uganda, even as Karamoja enters a dry spell.

Farmer Action

Farmers are urged to dry and store crops properly now, maintain drainage around fields during heavy rains, and start preparing fields and inputs for the next planting season.

Weather and Rainfall Forecast



Karamoja Weather

Precipitation

Very little rain expected (weekly total <10 mm) as the rainy season has ended. Dry conditions will prevail.

Temperatures

Hot days around 30 °C and cooler nights ~18 °C – typical November temperatures for Karamoja.

Alerts/Anomalies

No extreme weather warnings. The current prolonged dry spell is a notable shift after the unusually heavy rains Karamoja experienced in September. Farmers should note the early end of rains and plan dry-season water use accordingly.

Northern Region Weather

Precipitation

Light to moderate showers (~20–40 mm total) at the week's start, then turning mainly dry later in the week. Rainfall is slightly below the long-term mid-November average.

Temperatures

Warm days of 28–30 °C and mild nights ~19 °C. These values are normal as the rainy season tapers off.

Alerts/Anomalies

No flood threats as rains subside, but soils will gradually dry. The season's end is approaching – farmers should take advantage of any remaining showers for late harvesting activities.

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Eastern Region Weather

Precipitation

Mixed conditions. Highland areas (Mt. Elgon slopes) will get moderate rainfall (~50–70 mm) spread across most days (near-daily afternoon showers), whereas lowland districts (Teso, Busoga) see only ~20–30 mm over a few days.

Temperatures

Highs of 27–29 °C in lowlands (cooler ~24 °C in the highland zones); nights around 17 °C.

Alerts/Anomalies

Rainfall distribution remains erratic – the Oct–Dec rains started late and unevenly. Earlier this month, intense rains triggered landslides in the Mt. Elgon region; while no new severe events are forecast this week, farmers in flood-prone foothills should stay vigilant and maintain terracing and drainage.

Western Region Weather

Precipitation

Continued wet conditions with about 60–90 mm expected this week (heaviest in south-western highlands and along the Rwenzori). Occasional intense downpours are likely.

Temperatures

Daytime highs around 26–28 °C; nights cooler near 17 °C.

Alerts/Anomalies

Rainfall is above normal for November in western Uganda. Many areas have saturated soils, and previous persistent heavy rains have caused road washouts and landslides. No official warnings, but farmers should exercise caution: keep fields drained and be mindful of potential slope failures in mountainous areas.

Central Region Weather



Precipitation

Central Uganda (Lake Victoria Crescent) remains in its second rainy season. Expect roughly 50–80 mm this week with frequent thunderstorms (especially in districts near Lake Victoria).



Temperatures

Humid days with highs ~29 °C, and nights around 19 °C.



Alerts/Anomalies

Rainfall is somewhat above the seasonal average and likely to persist into December. Localized flash floods are possible in poorly drained low-lying and urban farming areas. No severe storm alerts, but the ongoing advisory for flash flood risk in flood-prone parts of central Uganda remains in effect.

Lake Victoria Crescent Weather

Precipitation

Frequent showers totaling ~50–70 mm along the Lake Victoria shore and on islands. High humidity throughout the week. Brief but intense thunderstorms likely on some days.

Temperatures

Warm, stable conditions – daytime ~28 °C, with nights around 21 °C.

Alerts/Anomalies

These conditions are normal for this peak of the short rains. Slightly above usual rainfall may enhance water availability for crops like rice and vegetables. Fisherfolk on Lake Victoria should heed marine forecasts, as gusty squalls can accompany thunderstorms. Overall, a wet week that sustains ample moisture for lakeshore farming, but caution for flash floods and lake winds is advised.

A background image of a man wearing a hat and a white t-shirt, carrying a large basket of yellow corn cobs on his head. He is standing in a field of tall, dry grass. The image is slightly faded to allow text to be read over it.

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Karamoja – Field Practical Implications

01

Post-Harvest Handling

With rains over, focus on post-harvest handling: continue sun-drying recently harvested sorghum and millet to safe moisture levels, then store grains in pest-proof containers (e.g. triple-layer hermetic bags) to prevent insect damage.

02

Secure Harvested Produce

Keep cereal grain off the ground (use tarpaulins or raised platforms) and ensure granaries are well-roofed to keep out any unexpected drizzles or pests.

03

Livestock Preparations

As pastures begin to brown, start planning dry-season feeding. Harvest and stash any remaining green fodder or make hay now. Repair water pans and troughs so livestock have reliable water when surface sources dwindle.

04

Soil Conservation Work

Utilize this dry spell to construct or repair soil and water conservation structures (such as contour bunds, trenches) in crop fields – doing this now ensures they capture runoff when the next rains return.

05

Pasture Management

Avoid bush burning (though it might seem to clear ticks, it removes valuable forage). Instead, clear invasive bushes manually to open land for next planting and reduce tsetse fly habitat, and reserve some grazing areas for later in the dry season in community agreements.

Northern Uganda – Field Practical Implications

1

Finish Harvests Promptly

Most maize and beans are mature or harvested – use the current rain-free spells to gather any remaining crops. Harvest maize cobs and dry them on mats or tarpaulins under the sun (aim for <13% moisture) to prevent mold.

2

Post-Harvest Care

Thresh beans immediately once pods are dry, then winnow and store the beans in airtight bags (to avoid weevils). Store maize off the ground (on pallets or cribs) and consider communal grain storage if available for better aeration.

3

Field Prep for Next Season

Cleared fields can be prepared early. Take advantage of still-soft soils to plow or hoe now (November/December) – early land preparation and turning under crop residues or manure will make planting easier in March.

4

Fodder Conservation

Pastures are still reasonably green – cut and sun-dry grass for hay while quality is high. Zero-grazing farmers (e.g. dairy in Lango/Acholi) should also ensile fodder (like elephant grass) in pits or drums now for use in the dry months.

5

Pest & Disease Vigilance

Maintain tick control on cattle as lingering humidity can spur tick activity (spray or dip every 2 weeks). Begin planning for known challenges next season – e.g. areas prone to Striga weed should incorporate trap crops (like Desmodium) or plan rotations (sunflower) to suppress this pestilent weed.

Eastern Uganda – Field Practical Implications



Manage Excess Moisture in Highlands

In Mount Elgon highlands and other steep areas, take advantage of any short dry breaks to weed and intercrop. Keep contour drains open to channel runoff safely – heavy showers on bare slopes can trigger erosion or landslides, so maintain those terraces and drains.



Support Late-Season Crops in Lowlands

In Teso and Busoga where rains have been patchy, farmers who planted short-cycle crops (vegetables, late beans) should irrigate during dry gaps if possible and apply mulch around plants to conserve soil moisture.



Pest Surveillance

Warm, humid conditions can spark foliar diseases in beans (watch for leaf spots, blights). Remove and destroy any diseased plant material promptly to curb spread. Check sorghum for late Fall Armyworm infestations – handpick and crush egg clusters or caterpillars at first sight to avoid severe damage later.



Soil and Water Planning

Given the uneven rainfall, consider harvesting rainwater from any heavy storms (using ponds, tanks, or tarpaulins) to store for the coming dry season irrigation.



Erosion Control

In flood-prone lowlands, reinforce any earth bunds along fields and keep drainage ditches clear so that sudden downpours drain away and do not waterlog or wash out young crops.

Western Uganda – Field Practical Implications

Work Around the Rains

Frequent rains mean avoid working in waterlogged fields to prevent soil compaction. Instead, focus on tasks like pruning and supporting perennial crops – for example, stake tall matooke (banana) plants and prop up heavy coffee branches to keep them from snapping in wind or under downpour.

Slope Protection

In highland areas of Kigezi and Rwenzori, continue reinforcing terrace edges and clearing any blocked runoff channels. Saturated steep soils are at risk of landslides – ensure all diversion ditches are functioning and don't let water pool on slopes.

Harvest Management

Beans and maize planted in September are nearing maturity. Start picking beans as pods mature – do staggered harvests if necessary, and dry the pods under shelter if rains persist. For maize, consider harvesting early (at physiological maturity) and drying cobs under cover to avoid field rot from the ongoing rains.

Livestock Care

Wet conditions can lead to foot rot in cattle – keep kraal floors dry by adding fresh bedding (straw) regularly. Also, flies and ticks thrive in the damp; continue routine tick sprays and set up fly traps around barns to protect animals.

Preventive Maintenance

Since land preparation for next season (March planting) will only start after New Year, use this time to sow cover crops on harvested plots (for instance, plant a quick-growing cover like mucuna or lupin now). These will improve soil fertility and suppress weeds, then can be plowed under before planting time.

Central & Lake Victoria Crescent – Field Practical Implications



Last Planting Activities

Central farmers should finalize planting of any remaining second-season crops now (the window is closing). Any maize or beans already 3–4 weeks old should get a top-dress of nitrogen (e.g. urea) provided the soil isn't waterlogged – the current rains will help dissolve and take the fertilizer to roots.



Disease Prevention in Horticulture

Vegetable growers must be proactive about fungal diseases in this humid weather. Stake tomatoes to keep foliage off the wet ground and apply preventative fungicides or biocontrol agents for blight, as needed, given the high disease pressure.



Flood Precautions

In the Lake Victoria crescent, heavy bursts can cause flash floods. Keep furrows and drainage channels open in rice paddies and other fields to channel excess water. If you grow rain-fed rice or similar, consider delaying harvest until a sunny spell to avoid spoilage – better a slightly late harvest than moldy grain.

Adaptive Scheduling

When fields are too wet to work, switch focus to tasks like nursery bed preparation for next season (raise seedlings under a simple shelter). For instance, start vegetable nurseries (cabbage, tomato, chilli) now under cover so transplants will be ready by early next year.

Livestock/Homestead

Smallholder dairy farmers should ensure cow sheds stay clean and dry – high moisture can cause mastitis in dairy cows, so regular bedding changes and udder hygiene are vital. Take advantage of abundant rain to plant or expand perennial crops like fruit trees or coffee now; they will establish strong roots before the dry season sets in.



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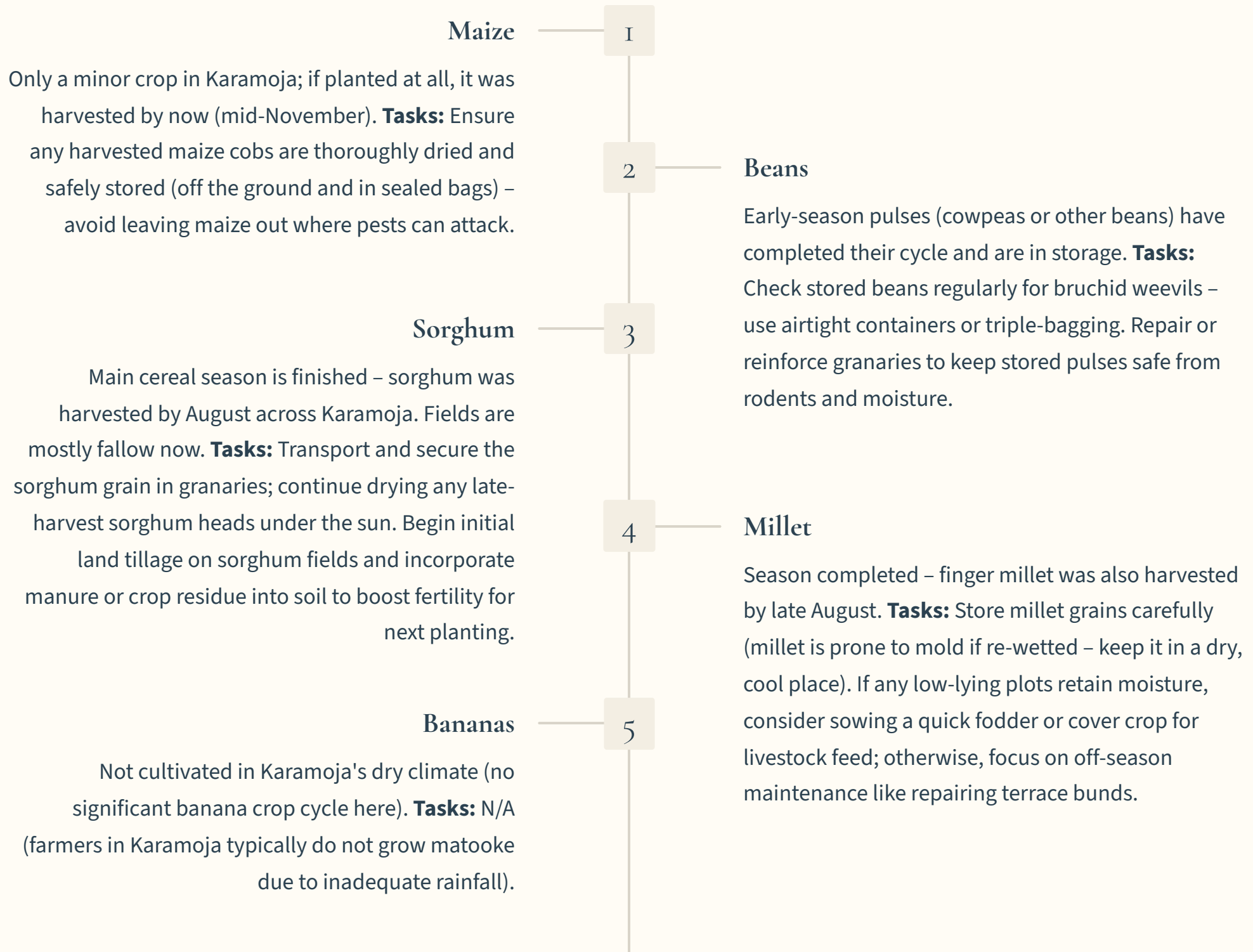


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Crop Calendar & Growth Stages – Karamoja



Crop Calendar & Growth Stages – Northern Uganda

Maize

Late-planted maize is at full maturity to drying stage in remaining fields; most earlier-planted maize has been harvested. **Tasks:** Continue harvesting any standing maize – pick cobs as soon as they dry on the stalk. Lay harvested cobs on mats or racks to dry further (ensure kernels hard and moisture low), then shell and store in aerated bags or cribs.

Beans

Many beans (often intercropped) have matured and are being harvested and threshed now. **Tasks:** Collect all dry pods promptly – avoid leaving mature beans in the field as they can shatter or get moldy in occasional drizzle. After threshing, winnow the beans and store them in airtight bags or granaries (drop in a few dried chili peppers in each bag to deter pests).

Sorghum

Some later-maturing sorghum and millet varieties are in the grain-hardening stage or being harvested, especially in West Nile and Acholi sub-regions. **Tasks:** Cut sorghum heads that are ripe and set them out to sun-dry thoroughly. If planning a ratoon (regrowth) crop from sorghum stumps, prepare pits or clear around the stalks to take advantage of residual soil moisture. Otherwise, start plowing sorghum fields after harvest – exposing the soil can help kill pests like stem borer pupae.

Millet

Similar to sorghum, any remaining millet is at ripening/harvest stage. **Tasks:** Harvest finger millet promptly as soon as it ripens (birds love it – guard fields or harvest early mornings). Dry millet ears on tarps and thresh when crisp. Store millet grain in pest-proof containers. If fields are cleared, you can begin light tillage or sow a cover crop to improve soil until next season.

Bananas

Grown on a smaller scale in parts of the north; as a perennial, matooke is fruiting continuously (no fixed season). **Tasks:** Harvest any mature banana bunches for sale or home use rather than letting them over-ripen on the plant. Remove dead banana leaves and old stalk debris to reduce pests. Heap mulch (dry leaves, grass) around banana mats to conserve soil moisture through the coming dry months, and consider a round of manure application to keep banana stools healthy.

Crop Calendar & Growth Stages – Eastern Uganda



Maize

Second-season maize (planted Sept.) is in grain-filling to early maturity. Cobs in Teso and lower eastern areas are drying; cooler highlands (Bugisu) are at milk/dough stage. **Tasks:** Final weeding if needed. Scout fields, test kernel hardness to time harvest. Protect maturing maize from birds/baboons with scarecrows or netting.



Beans

Short-cycle beans (planted Sept./Oct.) are pod-filling or nearing maturity, with early-planted beans ready for picking. **Tasks:** Pick yellow pods promptly to avoid shattering. If rains occur, dry under shelter. Thresh in dry weather and store with bruchid precautions (airtight containers/biopesticide-treated bags).



Sorghum

Second-season sorghum is uncommon in Eastern Uganda; most mid-year crops are harvested. Late-planted fields may be grain-ripening. **Tasks:** If growing, monitor for bird damage; cut panicles early if needed. After harvest, clear fields or consider ratooning if moisture permits. Otherwise, prepare fields for next year.



Millet

(Finger millet second season is minimal.) Any lingering millet is harvest-ready. **Tasks:** Harvest promptly, dry well, and store safely. Use millet straw as mulch or livestock feed.



Bananas

In eastern districts like Busoga, bananas are grown year-round; many mats are actively producing. **Tasks:** Harvest mature bunches regularly (avoiding over-ripening). Continue routine maintenance: prune excess suckers, apply mulch (bean haulms/maize stover) around each mat to maintain soil moisture and fertility.

Crop Calendar & Growth Stages – Western Uganda

Maize

Mid-altitude maize (e.g., Kasese) is mature, drying, and ready for harvest. In higher elevations (south-west highlands), it's at grain-filling, with harvest expected late Nov/Dec. **Tasks:** Cut and heap drying stalks under cover to prevent rot. Once dry, shell and store in hermetic bags or with moisture absorbers.

Millet

Finger millet sown mid-year is now being harvested. Sorghum from the first season was mostly harvested earlier. **Tasks:** Complete millet harvest, then dry and thresh carefully. Clean and sundry sorghum heads for seed/feed. After harvest, consider a quick cover crop or plowing, though heavy rains may delay field work.

Coffee (Robusta in mid-west, Arabica in highlands)

The main coffee harvest is concluding in some mid-west districts (Nov/Dec peak). **Tasks:** After harvest, plan pruning and stumping of old trees to rejuvenate them. Dig pits now for new coffee or banana seedlings for early 2026 transplant, adding compost.

Beans

Most second-season bush beans (e.g., Kigezi) are mature and being harvested. Climbing beans in cooler highlands are still podding/filling. **Tasks:** Harvest in stages, picking dry pods first. Air-dry harvested beans on a clean surface if rains persist. For immature climbing beans, watch for fungal diseases and ensure good airflow by staking.

Bananas (Matooke)

Western Uganda is a major matooke region with year-round fruiting, currently peaking due to ample rainfall. **Tasks:** Continually harvest mature bunches. De-sucker surplus young shoots. Prop leaning plants in soaked soils. Apply integrated pest management for weevils (e.g., neem/chilli-soil mix). Apply compost or manure for nutrient absorption in wet soil.

Crop Calendar & Growth Stages – Central Uganda

Maize

Fields planted in September are in late grain-filling to beginning of drying stage by mid-November. Some maize planted earlier (August) is already dry and ready for harvest in central districts. **Tasks:** As maize husks turn brown, guard against moisture re-entry – if rains continue, consider harvesting the cobs and drying them under cover to prevent aflatoxin. Start planning harvest logistics: have tarpaulins and sacks ready. After shelling, dry grain to proper moisture and store; central farmers should be cautious of aflatoxin, so test dryness (the grain should crack between teeth, not bend).

Beans

Most second-season beans have matured; farmers are either picking dry pods or will do so within 1–2 weeks. **Tasks:** Harvest beans promptly once ready – the intermittent thunderstorms mean leaving beans out too long risks mold. Dry the pods under sun when possible, but shift under shelter if rain comes. Once beans are dried and threshed, store them in airtight bags (you can add a small packet of desiccant or use triple bagging to keep out moisture and pests).

Horticulture

Many are growing vegetables for end-of-year markets. **Tasks:** Prepare nursery beds in the next few weeks for tomatoes, chillies, and other vegetables so seedlings are ready for transplanting by early January. Do this in a partially shaded area to protect the sprouting seeds from heavy rain and sun mix. Keep an eye out for increased pest activity in the cool wet weather – for instance, slugs or snails in vegetable plots – and use appropriate bait or barriers.

Sorghum & Millet

These cereals are not widely grown in the second season in central region. Any short-duration millet that was planted might be in grain-ripening now. **Tasks:** If you did grow a quick millet or sorghum crop, finish up the harvest as soon as grains mature. Use harvested millet straw for mulch or livestock feed. Otherwise, most cereal fields are fallow; you can start early field prep for next year or plant a soil-improving cover (like legumes) to fix nitrogen over the off-season.

Bananas

Central Uganda (e.g. Masaka, Mukono) grows matooke year-round; currently banana gardens have robust growth thanks to the rains – many bunches are sizing up and being harvested continuously. **Tasks:** Continue regular banana management: cut down old stems that have fruited, and remove any dried leaves to keep the mat healthy. Add a thick mulch layer around banana stools (grass, leaves, maize stalks) and if available, a light application of manure now – nutrients applied during rains will boost banana yield. The FAO crop guidelines note bananas here have no fixed season, so feeding them periodically (now) is beneficial.

Crop Calendar & Growth Stages – Lake Victoria Crescent

Maize

This area is in a prolonged second growing season. Because of the lake's influence, farmers here have an extended planting window – some even planted as late as October. Thus maize fields are at mixed stages: early-planted maize is drying up for harvest, whereas later-planted maize is at tasseling or grain-filling now. **Tasks:** Manage these staggered maize crops carefully. For fields still in flowering stage, apply a top-dress of nitrogen now if not already done (to boost ear development). Monitor late maize for Fall Armyworm – if you see whorl damage, treat early with safe options (like spraying a Bt bio-pesticide or even applying ash into the whorl for minor infestations) instead of waiting for heavy damage. Harvest any fully dried maize promptly before any surprise rain can re-wet it.

Beans

Similarly, beans in the lake zone range from flowering to podding depending on planting date. **Tasks:** Support any climbing beans or taller varieties with stakes to keep them upright in the rains. Apply preventive fungicides if diseases like rust or anthracnose appear (the lake humidity encourages these diseases). Once pods are filled, pick beans in dry intervals. Because planting was staggered, keep track of different plots' timelines – do not forget later-planted bean fields in pest control routines.

Bananas (Matooke)

Bananas are a major staple around the Lake; they are in active production with overlapping cycles – many bunches are currently being harvested while new suckers are emerging. **Tasks:** Maintain a steady harvest routine – cut ripe bunches immediately to reduce pest attraction. Implement routine mat management: prune old leaves, cull excess suckers (leave 2–3 per mat), and set banana weevil traps (split pseudostems) if signs of infestation. The continuous wet weather is great for banana growth – use it to establish new banana plantlets if you have them (plant them now so they root strongly).

Additional Quick Crops

The rainy conditions allow fast-growing greens. **Tasks:** Take advantage by planting quick vegetables (amaranth "doodo", nakati greens, etc.) in any available garden space – they will germinate fast and can be harvested within a few weeks, providing both home nutrition and market income. These short-cycle veggies thrive in the current moist soils and moderate temperatures.

Input & Technical Advisory

Fertility

Proper fertilization boosts yields. For maize, use a balanced NPK fertilizer at planting and a nitrogen top-dress later (e.g., urea when plants are knee-high). For legumes like beans, emphasize phosphorus and potassium. Incorporate well-rotted farmyard manure 2–3 weeks before planting to improve soil fertility and yields.

Soil Amendments & Conservation

With significant land degradation, improving soil health is critical. Address soil issues now for the off-season. Apply agricultural lime for acidic soils or gypsum for compacted soils. Consider adding single superphosphate for phosphorus-deficient soils. Use this rainy period to plant cover crops (like mucuna or lablab beans) on unused plots to add organic matter. On sloping land, reinforce contour bunds and terraces, planting grasses like vetiver to stabilize soil. Mulch bare soil with crop residues to conserve moisture, suppress weeds, and enrich topsoil.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Stay vigilant against pests and diseases using integrated strategies. For Fall Armyworm (FAW) in maize, inspect regularly; handpick and destroy egg masses. If infestation is significant, prefer biopesticides (like *Bacillus thuringiensis* or neem-based) over harsh chemicals to protect beneficial insects and prevent resistance. For storage pests, adopt hermetic storage methods (e.g., PICS bags) to kill insects through oxygen depletion, reducing the need for chemical powders. Control rodents by keeping storage areas clean and using traps. Plan crop rotations and intercropping (e.g., maize with desmodium or beans) to break pest cycles and reduce FAW damage.

Tech Tip – Better Grain Storage Without Chemicals

Protect stored grain naturally by adding dried chili peppers or neem leaves to each container. These botanicals repel pests. Crucially, combine this with airtight storage (sealed plastic drums or thick liner bags) after ensuring grain is truly dry. This safe, cheap, and effective technique significantly cuts storage losses without toxic chemicals.

Livestock & Ranching Advisory

Disease Control

Comply with Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) quarantine rules in affected districts. Participate in FMD vaccination drives immediately and continue routine livestock vaccinations (e.g., PPR for goats, Brucellosis for cattle). Report any unusual symptoms or sudden deaths to veterinary officers without delay.

Feeding & Pastures

Conserve fodder by cutting and drying excess grass for hay now, especially in northern Uganda. For zero-grazers, make silage from elephant/Brachiaria grass to use during the Jan–Feb dry spell. In Karamoja and cattle corridor areas, ration pasture usage by identifying and reserving "wet spots" for late dry season grazing. Supplement with stored hay or browse as natural pasture quality declines, and plan communal grazing rotations.

Water Management

Prepare for dry months by repairing water points. Check and fix boreholes/wells now. Desilt valley tanks and dams to ensure maximum usable volume. Plan water trekking routes to avoid conflict and schedule watering during cooler times to reduce heat stress. Consider setting up water troughs closer to homesteads for weaker animals.

Parasite & Vector Control

Maintain strict tick control (dip or spray every 7–14 days), even as rains ease. Watch for signs of tick-borne diseases like East Coast Fever. Deworm livestock at the start of the dry season with a broad-spectrum anthelmintic to reduce internal parasite loads. Manage biting flies with traps and by clearing manure, and seek treatment for potential trypanosomiasis.

Housing & Health in the Dry Season

Keep kraals dry with fresh bedding to prevent hoof rot and respiratory issues. Ensure good drainage around sheds. Provide simple windbreaks for young animals at night, especially in cool areas, to prevent pneumonia. Isolate any sick animal immediately and call a vet to protect the rest of the herd. Continue routine practices like foot trimming and providing mineral licks to maintain herd health.

Market Analysis

Staple Price Matrix (Regional Average Prices, per kg)

Commodity	Karamoja	Northern	Eastern	Western	Central	Lake Victoria Cres.
Maize	UGX 1,300	UGX 1,000	UGX 1,100	UGX 1,200	UGX 1,400	UGX 1,300
Beans	UGX 3,800	UGX 2,800	UGX 3,000	UGX 2,600	UGX 4,000	UGX 3,500
Sorghum	UGX 1,300	UGX 1,100	UGX 1,200	UGX 1,300	UGX 1,500	UGX 1,400
Millet	UGX 1,400	UGX 1,500	UGX 1,600	UGX 1,800	UGX 2,500	UGX 2,200
Bananas	NA	UGX 800	UGX 600	UGX 400	UGX 800	UGX 600

Market Insights

Uganda's staple food prices are relatively stable this week, trending slightly downward compared to a few months ago. Thanks to recent harvests, supplies have improved – for example, maize grain in Kampala has fallen from around UGX 1,800/kg in mid-year to about UGX 1,400 now, and similar easing is seen in other regions. Many farming households are consuming their own harvest, reducing market demand and keeping prices in check.

There are notable regional price disparities. Western Uganda enjoys some of the lowest staple prices (e.g. beans UGX 2,600/kg in markets like Mbarara, and bananas extremely cheap at ~UGX 400/kg farm-gate) due to local surplus production. In contrast, Central region (Kampala metro) remains the most expensive – beans sell for UGX 4,000 or more per kg in city markets, and millet flour is around UGX 2,500–3,000, as urban demand plus transport costs drive prices up. The Lake Victoria Crescent areas (districts around Kampala/Jinja) have slightly lower prices than the city itself – for instance, maize is ~UGX 1,300 in Jinja versus 1,400 in central Kampala, since these areas are nearer to farms and supply routes. Karamoja stands out: beans are very expensive (UGX 3,800) because the region depends on imports from elsewhere, and matooke bananas are not part of the diet/trade there (hence "Data unavailable" for Karamoja bananas).

Livestock prices remain robust across most regions. A medium bull averages around UGX 1.2–1.3 million nationally (a bit higher near Kampala). Goats are about UGX 150,000 upcountry (up to ~180k in urban butchers), and local chickens sell for UGX 25,000–30,000 each. These prices have held steady compared to last month, with a chance of slight increases as the festive season approaches. One factor to note: in districts under FMD quarantine, cattle market sales are restricted, which has kept local cattle prices from rising further.

Coverage: Karamoja (2 markets: Moroto, Kotido); Northern (13/14 markets reported, missing Lamwo); Eastern (7/7 markets); Western (9/9 markets); Central (4/4 markets); Lake Victoria Crescent (2 key markets: Jinja, Mukono).

A smiling woman with short dark hair, wearing a blue patterned top and a red cloth tied around her waist, stands in a lush green field. She is holding two purple eggplants in her hands. The background is a soft-focus view of a rural landscape with trees and a bright sky.

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Looking Ahead & Key Reminders

National Outlook

Continued Rains into Late Season

Expect above-normal rains to continue, possibly extending into December, shortening the dry season. Plan harvests and drying accordingly. Early indicators suggest heavier rains for Mar-May 2026, so prepare for a potentially milder dry season start and adjust planting if needed.

Festive Season Market Dynamics

Staple grain prices may stabilize or dip in Nov/Dec as households use own harvests. Livestock prices (poultry, goats) are expected to spike in December due to festive demand; farmers should aim for mid-December sales. Consider buying grain for storage in November. The overall economy is stable, but monitor global fertilizer prices and consider buying for 2026 by January.

Upcoming Government Initiatives

The Parish Development Model (PDM) will disburse more funds to parish SACCOs in early 2026 for agricultural investments. Farmers should organize at the parish level to access these grants/loans. The National Agricultural Extension Symposium in Feb 2026 will introduce new digital advisory services and manuals. **Action:** Engage with local extension officers and prepare group proposals for PDM support.

Safety & Preparedness

Prioritize safety during intense weather. Seek shelter indoors or in vehicles during thunderstorms due to lightning risk. In flood-prone areas, remain vigilant even after rains. Avoid flooded roads/bridges and delay fieldwork during heavy downpours. Remember: "Protect yourself first, then the harvest." Keep emergency contacts and first aid kits ready.

Regional Checklists

Karamoja Region Checklists

1. **Water & Pasture Management:** Identify and secure any water sources that will last into the dry season – clean silt from key valley tanks, and fix wells now. Organize community grazing plans, marking which pasture areas to save for late dry season versus those to use up first.
2. **Livestock Culling Decisions:** Consider selling off unproductive animals early in the dry season (while they are still in good body condition from the green season). This reduces pressure on limited pasture and provides cash that can be saved or used to buy fodder for the core herd later when feed is scarce.
3. **Soil Conservation Prep:** Use this off-season to implement land improvements – dig contour trenches on slopes and small earth dams in valleys. Come the first rains of 2026, these structures will harvest runoff and improve moisture for your next crops.
4. **Hay and Stover Storage:** Harvest standing hay from any remaining green grass areas (along streambanks, etc.) and store it. Also collect crop residues (sorghum stalks, groundnut haulms) from this harvest and keep them dry – these will be lifesavers for feeding goats and cattle in January/February.
5. **Bush Clearing & Pest Control:** Before grasses dry completely, do controlled bush clearing around grazing areas – it will open more land for pasture regrowth next year and reduce hiding spots for tsetse flies and predators. At homesteads, start rodent control now as rodents will seek food in grain stores during the dry season (set traps and guard your granaries).

Northern Region Checklists

1. **Post-Harvest Monitoring:** Set a routine to inspect stored grains every two weeks. Re-dry grains in the sun for a day if you feel any dampness or see any mold starting – a sunny day in December can be enough to re-sun your maize or beans to keep them safe. Also, periodically check and turn stored groundnuts to prevent mildew.
2. **Collective Marketing:** Think ahead for better prices – consider pooling produce with fellow farmers to sell in bulk in late January or February when prices may rise. Start discussions now with local cooperatives or traders about bulk sales; selling as a group (for example, a truckload of maize) can fetch a higher price per kg than many small lots.
3. **Land Preparation:** January often brings hard soils if completely dry – but early January, while there's still some moisture, is ideal to begin plowing fields for the first rains of March. Line up ox-plough services or tractor hire in advance (many will be in demand). If you have oxen, get them serviced (yokes, plough blades sharpened) and plan to break your gardens into the first furrow just after New Year. Early tillage also exposes soil pests (like maize stalk borer pupae) to predators and sun.
4. **Pest Anticipation:** Reflect on this year's issues – if Striga weed was a big problem in certain maize fields, plan a rotation for that field (maybe plant sunflower or legumes there next season, or intercropping with Desmodium to combat Striga). If Armyworms were rampant, talk to extension agents now about obtaining FAW pheromone traps or seed treatments before the next planting.
5. **Household Food Reserve:** As the holiday season tempts sales, be cautious not to sell too much of your food stock. Calculate your family's needs until the next harvest (which will be around July for main season) and set aside at least that amount securely. It's better to miss some quick cash now than to buy back food at higher prices later.

Eastern Region Checklists

1. **Early Input Sourcing:** Given hints of an early 2026 rainy season start, secure seeds and inputs by January. Visit agro-dealers now to buy or book quality seeds (especially for fast-maturing varieties of maize, beans, or whatever you plan) – stocks can run low if the season comes early. Also price out fertilizers and begin saving money to purchase them by February, since demand (and possibly prices) will spike if rains are forecast to start early.
2. **On-Farm Seed Testing:** If you saved seeds from this season's harvest (beans, groundnuts, etc.), do a quick germination test in late January. For example, take 20 seeds and sprout them on a moist cloth for a few days to see how many germinate – if less than 16 sprout (80%), you may need to obtain new seed or treat the saved seed. Better to know seed viability before planting time.
3. **Dry-Season Crop Exploits:** If the October–December rains continue even slightly into late December, consider taking advantage by planting a quick crop like cowpea, green gram, or vegetables in lowland plots – these can yield by February and give extra income or food. Be mindful to use residual moisture and possibly some irrigation if needed to finish the crop.
4. **Irrigation Maintenance:** For farmers near swamps or with access to water for dry-season farming (common in eastern wetlands), this is maintenance time. Repair any treadle pumps, patch leaks in drip lines, and clear silt from small irrigation canals. This ensures that when you need to water your tomatoes or cabbages in January, your equipment works reliably. Also start raising vegetable seedlings (tomato, cabbage, sukuma) in nurseries around end of December so you can transplant in January for off-season production – dry-season vegetables fetch high prices in towns!
5. **Pest Watch (Cross-Border):** Keep an ear out for regional pest alerts – the Horn of Africa has seen locust upsurges in past years. While currently no locusts are reported, eastern Uganda historically is a corridor for migratory pests. If you hear radio reports or extension advisories about locusts or quelea birds in neighboring Kenya or South Sudan, mobilize your community early to do scouting and be prepared to chase pests away or report to authorities for action.

Western Region Checklists

1. **Landslide and Flood Caution:** The unusually heavy second-season rains mean saturated soils in highlands (Kigezi, Rwenzori) and full rivers. Remain vigilant on hillside farms – avoid leaving any irrigation water running or any drainage blocked. Farmers near riverbanks (Semliki, Nyamwamba, etc.), keep flood diversion channels clear of debris. As you plan new plantings or land prep for next year, factor in moving gardens a bit uphill or reinforcing riverbanks with sandbags or tree planting to shield against potential flash floods.
2. **Perennial Crop Renewal:** Post-harvest is pruning time. For coffee farmers: once you finish picking the main flush by December, start stumping the oldest coffee trees (cutting stems to knee height to rejuvenate them) – do a section of your coffee garden each year to maintain productivity. Also plan to plant new coffee seedlings at the start of the March rains; dig the holes now and mix in manure so they are ready. For banana farmers: identify old banana mats that are past prime and prepare holes nearby to plant fresh suckers from your healthy mats – bananas establish best if planted at the tail end of the rains (late Dec or very early Jan while soil is still moist).
3. **Livestock – Dry Season Prep:** Districts in the western cattle corridor (like Sembabule, Kiruhura) often impose burning bans in the dry season to prevent bushfires. Be prepared: instead of burning pastures, use paddock rotation to allow grass to regrow. Take time in January to repair or install paddock fences – many farmers lose animals or get conflicts when cows stray in search of pasture; secure your grazing areas now. Also, check communal watering points – if some valley dams dried up last dry season, advocate with local leaders to have them desilted or expanded now.
4. **Apiary (Beekeeping):** The flowering season for many plants is coming around February–March in western Uganda. If you keep bees or want to start, use January's dry weeks to set up new beehives. Top-bar hives or Kenya-style box hives can be made or purchased and installed in woodlots now. Bait new hives with beeswax or local herbs by late January so that when trees start flowering, swarms will colonize them. Honey is both a great income and an important pollinator support – encourage youth in your community to take up at least a hive or two.
5. **Value Addition at Farm:** Consider small on-farm processing during the off-season. For example, in areas like Isingiro (bananas), you could try slicing and sun-drying some bananas or making banana chips for sale (prices are good in urban areas for dried snacks). If you had a bumper groundnut harvest in Kiryandongo, see if you can make peanut butter for local sale. Western Uganda is known for milk – if you anticipate surplus milk in Jan (as calves are grown), maybe produce some ghee which can store longer and sell later. Adding value can significantly increase your earnings – start small during this coming slow period.

Central Region (incl. Lake Victoria areas) Checklists

1. **Off-Season Irrigation & Market Gardening:** Central Uganda farmers often engage in dry-season vegetable production targeting urban markets. Identify and secure your water source now. Clean out any small dams/ponds that filled with silt during rains so they can catch and hold more water. Those near wetlands or swamps: plan a regulated, sustainable use of that moisture for vegetables (while following environmental guidelines). Procure or repair water pumps if using them; if not, stock up on watering cans. Key off-season crops like tomatoes, leafy greens, and chilies are very profitable in Jan–Feb if you can keep them watered.
2. **Fruit Tree Planting:** The tail end of the rains (late Nov into Dec) is ideal for transplanting fruit tree seedlings. If you have space, plant some mango, avocado, citrus or jackfruit saplings in your farm compound or boundary this month – they will benefit from the residual soil moisture to establish roots. By investing now, you'll have fruit in a few years and added income (there's growing urban demand for fruits). Also consider planting quick-growing shade trees around your home or animal pens for windbreaks and shade – species like moringa or gliricidia can grow rapidly and even provide secondary benefits (moringa leaves for food, gliricidia for fodder/soil improvement).
3. **Pest Control Campaigns:** After the main harvest, pests like rats often migrate from fields to homes. Villages in central region should organize a community rodent control effort in early January. This can be as simple as everyone clearing the bushy edges around their houses and grain stores (reduces rodent habitat), setting out traps or bait in a coordinated way, and sealing holes in granary walls. Doing it together ensures rodents don't just move from one house to the next. Also, keep an eye out for armyworms or quelea birds in late Jan – central region occasionally gets outbreaks if the early rains start-and-stop; maintain contact with local ag extension for any warnings.
4. **Urban/Peri-Urban Farming Tips:** Many central farmers operate in urban settings (Wakiso, Mukono etc.). With heavy rains, some urban gardens might have suffered waterlogging. Plan to improve drainage in small plots – dig narrow trenches to channel runoff to the roadside or into soak pits. Consider switching some low-lying vegetable beds to raised beds to avoid future waterlogging. For poultry keepers, festive season is peak sales – plan your broiler cycle so birds reach market weight by mid-December; afterwards, clean and disinfect coops thoroughly during January downtime to break any disease cycles before starting next batch.
5. **Fishing & Lakeshore Farming:** Lake Victoria communities should prepare for stronger winds in Jan–Feb – that period often brings choppy lake conditions. Fisherfolk: service your boats now (patch any holes, secure engines) and procure proper life jackets. Farmers on islands or close to the shore: planting or reinforcing windbreaks is valuable – quick hedges of trees like moringa, cassia or even planting maize in rows as windbreak can protect gardens from wind scorch. Also, anticipate that lake water levels might slightly rise with continued rains; ensure any lakeshore irrigation pumps are moved to safe ground when not in use to prevent flood damage.

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Government & NGO Updates



MAAIF Agro-Industrialization Progress

MAAIF's Joint Agro-Industrialization Programme (JAIP) reported 6.8% growth in agricultural value addition and doubled export earnings to USD 4.4 billion in five years, attributed to better post-harvest handling. **Relevance:** Farmers can expect continued government support for agro-processing; organizing into cooperatives is recommended to access these facilities.



\$31 M Climate Fund Boost

Uganda secured a \$31 million grant from the Green Climate Fund for curbing deforestation, Africa's first results-based payment for reducing ~8 million tons of CO₂. **Relevance:** Funds will be reinvested in community climate projects. Farmers in forest-adjacent areas should look for programs offering free tree seedlings, agroforestry training, or alternative livelihoods like beekeeping.



Road Repairs After Rains

The Ministry of Works has begun emergency repairs on infrastructure damaged by heavy rains, including major sections in Kisoro, Mt. Elgon, and the Karuma-Kamdini highway. **Relevance:** These repairs will improve transport for produce from rural farms to markets. Farmers in affected districts should plan for minor delays and use alternate routes if available.



Food Security Alert (WFP FSNA)

A recent WFP Food Security & Nutrition Assessment (Nov 6) shows worsening hunger and child malnutrition. **Relevance:** Government and WFP are increasing aid, such as cash support and food distribution. Farmers in food-insecure communities should engage with these programs, consider quick kitchen gardens, drought-tolerant seeds, and post-harvest loss reduction.



World Food Day Commitments

Uganda celebrated World Food Day, reiterating its commitment to end hunger by 2030 and announcing the finalization of the National Fertilizer Policy and a new Agricultural Extension Strategy. **Relevance:** Farmers can expect increased engagement from extension workers, more training, and improved access to affordable fertilizers. Efforts to stabilize food prices may also benefit producers and consumers.



Pest & Disease Control Efforts

MAAIF, with partners, launched a new digital tool (FAW eHub) for Fall Armyworm monitoring via an e-portal and WhatsApp system. Desert locust risk remains low but surveillance continues. **Relevance:** Farmers should utilize the FAW reporting system for faster response. Staying alert to Ministry warnings for locusts, especially in Karamoja and eastern border areas, is prudent.

Recent Publications & Links

(for further reading on agriculture and climate topics)

- **East Africa Seasonal Monitor: Delayed and Erratic Start to the Oct–Dec 2025 Rains** – FEWS NET (5 Nov 2025): Field report detailing how the short rains have been below average and patchy in the eastern Horn (including eastern Uganda), warning of potential crop yield reductions if rains remain poor. Emphasizes need for drought preparedness in affected areas.
- **FAO@80: Better Food for a Better Future as Uganda Marks World Food Day** – Nile Post (16 Oct 2025): Article highlighting Uganda's food security status (1.7 million acutely food-insecure, 29% child stunting, 50% of women anemic). Showcases partnerships (irrigation projects, South–South cooperation in rice/dairy, youth agribusiness programs) and calls to action for nutrition and sustainable agriculture.
- **Fall Armyworm Impacts and Management in Africa** – CABI Agriculture & Bioscience (Oct 2025): Scientific study (via PreventionWeb) on Ugandan smallholders' battle with FAW. Finds 84–90% of farmers rely mainly on chemical insecticides for FAW control, raising concerns about resistance and health effects. Recommends integrated pest management (handpicking larvae, using biocontrols, rotating chemicals) to ensure sustainable FAW management. Highlights need for farmer education on non-chemical methods.
- **Global Weather Hazards Summary** – NOAA/CPC (6 Nov 2025): A weekly hazards bulletin reporting recent flooding and landslides in Eastern Africa. Notes that early November heavy rains caused casualties and infrastructure damage in eastern Uganda's Mt. Elgon region and western Kenya. Places Uganda's events in a regional context (floods in neighboring countries, ongoing drought in others) and underscores the importance of disaster readiness for such climate extremes.
- **Uganda's Agri-Exports Soar to \$4.4B on Value Addition Boost** – NTV Uganda (10 Nov 2025): News piece on a positive trend: MAAIF's review showed agricultural export earnings doubled over 5 years (from \$2.3B to \$4.4B), thanks to improvements in value addition and post-harvest practices. Quotes the Agriculture PS crediting empowerment of local producers. Suggests that investments in processing (coffee roasting, fruit processing, etc.) are paying off. Implies farmers and cooperatives should continue focusing on quality and adding value to connect better to these lucrative export markets.

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