Contact us

COPRA OFFICE
HEADQUARTERS
1st Floor, Kahawa Plaza,
Njedengwa, DODOMA.

026 231 0225 | +255 714 605 155

Copra_tz

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
CEREALS AND OTHER PRODUCE
REGULATORY AUTHORITY

GREEN GRAM PROFILE

FOR TANZANIA

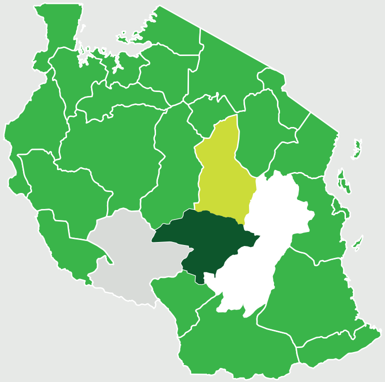
JANUARI, 2025

1. Overview

Green gram, commonly known as mung bean (Vigna radiata), is a small leguminous plant grown primarily for its edible seeds, which are rich in proteins, vitamins, and minerals. In Tanzania, it is an important crop due to its nutritional benefits, versatility in cooking, and its role in sustainable agricultural practices, particularly for improving soil fertility. Tanzania is among Africa's leading producers of green gram. It produces an average of 140,000 tons per year.

2. Production System

Green gram thrives in warm climates and is well-suited for regions with temperatures between 25-30°C, rainfall range between 350-700 mm per annum and altitude not higher than 1500 meters above sea level. It requires well-drained soils with a pH range of 6 to 7. Tanzania's varied climatic zones make it an ideal location for green gram cultivation, particularly in the semi-arid areas of the central southern and northern regions like Dodoma, Singida, Arusha, Mtwara, Simiyu, Mwanza, Geita, Tabora, Shinyanga, and Ruvuma.



Green grams production trend

S/N	Year	Metric Tons
1.	2020/2021	144,655
2.	2021/2022	148, 359
3.	2022/2023	155,937

Source:Ministry of Agriculture Tanzania, 2024

3. Marketing system and Market potential

The marketing system of green gram in Tanzania is multifaceted, involving various stakeholders, from farmers to consumers, and covering both domestic and export markets.

3.1Domestic Markets

Green gram is marketed through two primary systems, the warehouse receipts system through digital auctions and unregulated marketing. Unregulated marketing involves direct transactions between farmers and local traders, cooperatives, or wholesalers without relying on the formal warehouse receipt system or oversight from regulatory bodies. In this system, farmers usually sell their green gram directly to local traders after harvesting. These Traders purchase green gram in from farmers, transporting it to regional markets, and selling it to larger wholesalers or processors. Wholesalers distribute the green grams to retailers or export markets.

The warehouse receipts system in Tanzania allows farmers to store their green gram in certified warehouses, which are licensed to store agricultural commodities. This system aims to increase market efficiency, reduce risks for farmers, and enhance access to finance. Fortunately, warehouse receipts system is what recently being promoted by the government to ensure that all green grams are marketed through this system.

3.2 Export Markets

Tanzania exports green gram to international markets. Key export destinations include neighboring countries such as Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda, as well as markets in Asia (India and China) and the Middle East.

3.2 Current Market Potential for Green Gram in Tanzania

- **Increasing Consumption:** Green gram is gaining popularity in Tanzanian households due to its nutritional value, including high protein content, fiber, and vitamins. This makes it especially appealing for vegetarian and health-conscious consumers. Green gram is commonly consumed in Tanzania, either as boiled beans, flour in food preparation, or as an ingredient in other dishes salads.

Regional Trade
Tanzania benefits from strong trade relationships with neighboring countries, such as Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. These countries have a high demand for green gram, making them as a key export markets for Tanzanian green gram.

Global Demand
There is increasing demand for green gram in international markets, particularly in Asia (India, China) and the Middle East, where green gram is a significant part of the diet.

Quality and Standards: As the global market for green gram grows, there is an increasing need for adherence to international quality standards and certification, such as organic certification or adherence to hygiene standards. This provides an opportunity for Tanzanian producers to tap into premium markets.

4. Varieties

Tanzania produces a range of green gram varieties, whose quality are often determined by factors like seed size, purity, moisture content, and damage during harvesting and handling. To ensure this quality, Tanzania employs a variety of measures, focusing on improving farming practices, providing training and extension services, implementing post-harvest handling techniques, and promoting storage and warehousing systems. By adhering to national standards and engaging in quality certification processes, Tanzanian green grams are better positioned to meet both local and international market demands.

5. Investment Opportunities

Seed Production and Distribution
Investing in the production and distribution of high-quality green gram seeds can enhance yields and farmer incomes.

Fertilizers and Pesticides:
Investments in providing eco-friendly fertilizers and pest control solutions tailored for green grams can help improve yields while maintaining sustainability.

Green Gram Processing Facilities
Setting up processing plants to clean, pack, and possibly create value-added products like green gram flour or snacks could be a lucrative venture.

Export-Ready Packaging
Investing in packaging that meets international standards will open up markets in the countries where there is growing demand for green grams.

Research and Development (R&D)
Funding research initiatives to develop disease-resistant and high-yielding varieties can significantly improve production efficiency.

Training Programs
Investing in farmer education on best practices and sustainable farming methods can boost productivity and profitability.

Market Access (Domestic and Export)
Developing better supply chains and market linkages can help farmers reach wider markets and improve their income stability.

Storage and Warehousing:
Establishing storage facilities in areas of high production can help reduce post-harvest losses.

Transportation Networks
Improving transportation infrastructure, especially from rural farming areas to the markets would be crucial.

6. Conclusion

Green gram holds a promising future in Tanzania, both as a key crop for food security and as an economic driver. With improved agricultural practices, better infrastructure, and expanded market access, Tanzania has the potential to become a significant player in the global green gram market.