

### To maximize maize yields:

- Plant on time in clean well cleared tilled land.
- Plant the best variety suited to your environmental conditions.
- Plant improved quality seeds.
- Optimise yields with the correct plant population.
- Protect your crop from weeds until well developed.
- Top dress in time to promote vegetative growth.



A good maize harvest in store



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## KSTP94: Striga tolerant Maize for Western Kenya





## Introduction

Maize production in Western Kenya is seriously affected by the parasitic striga weed. High infestation by the weed can cause total crop failure.



**Striga devastated maize crop (inset striga plant)**

## Striga control methods

Several striga control methods have been unsuccessfully tried. These include up-rooting and soil amendment with legume cover crops. These methods have been rendered unsuccessful by the more than 10 years viability of the striga seed in the soil.

Striga resistance in maize has not yet been achieved but the new KSTP 94 maize shows some tolerance to the weed.

## Variety KSTP 94

This variety has been developed from local varieties of Western Kenya and has been found to perform well under striga infestation compared to other varieties.



**KSTP94 maize plant and ear**

## Areas recommended for KSTP 94

KSTP 94 is recommended in all striga infested areas of Western and Nyanza provinces of Kenya. The variety yields well in mid and low altitude areas.

It can be planted in both the long and short rainfall season and under good crop management, can yield 17-22 bags/acre.



**KSTP94 maize cobs**

## Where to get KSTP 94

Seed and information on KSTP 94 can be obtained from KARI-Kakamega.

Other sources are from partners such as Dominion farm limited, Lagrotech Seed Company, Sacred Africa and the Ministry of Agriculture.

## How to produce KSTP seed at farm level

KSTP 94 is an open pollinated variety and therefore the farmer can select own seed from the previous crop as seed for next season.

## Selection procedure

- Select the cobs in the middle of the field. Cobs at the edge of the field are likely to be contaminated with pollen from the adjacent fields.



**Well selected cobs**

- Dry the cobs separately to avoid mixing with other varieties at the homestead.
- Shell the maize and treat with the recommended seed dressing chemical.
- Store in a cool dry place for the next season.
- Seed recycling is allowed for only 3 seasons and thereafter the farmer should get new seeds from the sources identified earlier.