FPI / PRACTICAL AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Climate-Resilient Planting Worksheet

Farm planning worksheet | Print and complete

A field-ready tool for turning climate uncertainty into practical planting, water, soil and contingency decisions.

2026 EDITION | Botswana and Southern Africa

Published for farmer training, extension, farm planning and agricultural systems integration. Adapt all recommendations to verified local conditions, water rights and professional advice.

1 Farm and season profile

Field	Complete
Farmer / organisation	_____
Farm / district / GPS	_____
Season / assessment date	_____
Field area (ha) / crop	_____
Advisor / reviewer	_____

2 Climate risk screening

Mark likelihood and impact as Low / Medium / High; write one practical response for each material risk.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Response
Delayed onset of rain	_____	_____	_____
Early season dry spell	_____	_____	_____
Heat / hot wind	_____	_____	_____
Flooding / waterlogging	_____	_____	_____
Pest and disease shift	_____	_____	_____
Early cessation of rain	_____	_____	_____

3 Evidence before planting

Use local rainfall records, recent seasonal forecasts, soil observations and verified water availability. A seasonal forecast is probabilistic, not a guaranteed planting date.

Rainfall onset evidence / source / date

_____

_____

Soil moisture and drainage observations

_____

_____

4 Crop and variety selection

Candidate crop / variety	Days to maturity	Heat / drought fit	Seed source / decision
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

5 Planting decision gates

Do not plant solely because of the calendar. Record minimum field conditions for establishment and a review date.

Decision gate	Evidence / target	Status
Adequate moisture in seed zone	_____	Pass / Hold
Forecast and rainfall onset reviewed	_____	Pass / Hold
Soil prepared, drainage checked	_____	Pass / Hold
Seed quality and variety confirmed	_____	Pass / Hold
Water reserve / backup available	_____	Pass / Hold
Inputs, labour and pest scouting ready	_____	Pass / Hold

Primary planting window / alternative window

_____

_____

6 Soil and water protection plan

Practice	Location / quantity	Responsible / due date
Mulch or residue cover	_____	_____
Contour / erosion protection	_____	_____
Compost / organic matter	_____	_____
Drainage and infiltration	_____	_____
Rainwater harvesting	_____	_____
Irrigation and leak checks	_____	_____

7 Contingency and monitoring

Trigger	Action	Decision owner
Rainfall onset delayed by ___ days	_____	_____
Dry spell of ___ days	_____	_____
Water supply below ___ m3	_____	_____
Heat / crop stress threshold	_____	_____
Heavy rainfall / standing water	_____	_____

Weekly field log

Week / date	Rain (mm)	Soil moisture / crop condition	Action taken
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Lessons and changes for the next planting cycle

_____

_____

_____

Sign-off: Farmer _____ Advisor _____ Date _____

Reference basis

FAO Crop Calendar and FAO climate adaptation crop-calendar training: https://cropcalendar.review.fao.org/ and https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=1352. Check national meteorological advisories before decisions.