



ROYAL TIMES



LAUNCH OF ROYAL 705 F1

**YOU ASKED WE HEARD,
WE SOLVED !!!!!**

Kirinyaga County is well known for its vast agricultural activities mainly **Horticultural**. One of the main economic crops that thrive in the region is **TOMATOES**, which are cultivated by both **Small and Large Scale Farmers**.

One of the **main** perennial challenges that have been facing tomato farmers in Kirinyaga is **Bacterial Wilt**. According to research, it has been noted that Bacterial Wilt reduces tomato production by **approximately 70%**. More so, the **Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus** has also been a challenge, especially during **extremely high temperatures** experienced in Kirinyaga.

QUALITY SEEDS FOR AFRICA






ROYAL 705 F1

Early Semi-Determinate Hybrid Saladette type



EXCITING THINGS IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

ROYAL 705 F1



In view of the above and through working with the local farmers, **Kenya Highland Seed Company** under the **Royal Seed brand** identified the need to have a tomato variety that can withstand various **Viral** and **Bacterial Wilt Spectrums**. It is based on this that a New Hybrid Tomato Seed Variety known as; **TOMATO ROYAL 705 F1** was developed.

The development of **TOMATO ROYAL 705 F1** has been an interesting and vigorous experimental journey that was characterized by a **dozen of field trials** with key growers from the region. **Royal 705 F1** has an **early maturity attribute of 65 days** compared to most tomato varieties that mature after 75 days. **Its hard skin contributes to its longer shelf-life** which is an added advantage to the tomato traders. To Mama Mboga, **the medium size fruit** is ideal for their market demand.



TOMATO ROYAL 705 F1 was officially launched on **16th March 2022** in **Kangai, Mwea** which attracted **over 250 tomato farmers** from the county and beyond.



The farmers experienced the crop first hand from the Host farmer, who shared his experiences with the **New Tomato Variety's entire crop life**.



It was an exciting moment when the farmers were introduced to the **New Tomato Variety ROYAL 705 F1** which had all the attributes they had desired for the longest time.



Some of the attributes included;

1. Early maturing variety with less than 75 days to maturity
1. Has firm fruits with a shelf life of up to 21 days
2. Tolerant to Bacterial Wilt, Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus, and Verticillium Wilt
3. Has a high production of up to 30 tons per acre.
4. A semi-determinate variety, with a fruit weight of up to 115 to 125 grams' oval in shape

Royal Seed is privileged to have been a **Seed Company that Developed a Solution** for the Tomato Farmers in Kirinyaga and the country at large. The company will continue carrying out more research with breeders to ensure high-quality seeds are developed to meet farmers' diverse needs.

THE SEED RATE BTW 15 -25 GRAMS PER ACRE DEPENDING ON SPACING. SEEDS ARE AVAILABLE IN BOTH GRAMS, SEED COUNT PACKS

UNIQUE DISEASE TOLERANCE ABILITY



ROYAL 705 F1

EARLY SEMI-DETERMINATE HYBRID SALADETTE TYPE

- MATURITY 75 DAYS FROM TRANSPLANTING
- FRUIT WEIGHT 110 -125 GRAMS
- FIRM FRUITS WITH GOOD SHELF LIFE
- OVAL SHAPED WITH FIRM/HARD FRUITS & BRIGHT RED ON MATURITY

TOLERANT/ RESISTANT TO THE DISEASES CAPTURED



BACTERIAL WILT (BW)

A vascular tissue disease affecting the foliage of plants. Symptoms consist of wilting of the youngest leaves at the ends of the branches. As the disease develops under favorable conditions, the entire plant wilt quickly and desiccates although the leaves remain green, leading to general wilting and yellowing of foliage and eventually plant death.

TOMATO YELLOW LEAF CURL VIRUS (TYLCV)

A viral disease transmitted by whiteflies. Affected tomatoes are characterized by stunted growth, yellowing of the young leaves, and upwards curling of the leaves



TOMATO MOSAIC VIRUS (TMV)

A plant pathogenic virus affecting any stage of solanaceous crops. Disease is mainly transmitted by vectors. The foliage of affected tomato plants tend to be mottling with alternating yellow and green pigments. Older leaves tend to have pointed tips while younger leaves tend to be twisted. Fruits may have yellow blotches and necrotic spots occurring both on ripe and green fruits. Eventually, the entire crop is dwarfed and flowers discoloured.



VERTICILLIUM WILT (Vd & Va)

Caused by Soil borne fungus. Plants show wilt symptoms during warmest period of the day. Lower leaves turn yellow and defoliation occurs. Visible brown discoloration on the stem once its cut along the length



NEW MAIZE VARIETY



As noted by most Maize farming companies that have been selling Maize from time immemorial. **Poor soil fertility** is a major – yet often overlooked – factor affecting food production in Africa. **Farmers suffer low yields and crop failure due to poor soils**, a situation that has crippled food security for millions of smallholders in the continent.

As **Royal Seed**, we have come forth to try and address this problem, by introducing to our farmers a **New Maize Variety- An Excellent Certified Seed Variety tailored for the African farmers.**

To Most of our farmers we know they will be very skeptical about this variety, why is this? **never used “THE VARIETY”** before, fear of **“losing yields”** since they do not know how this variety performs. Most of it all no one attests to its performance.

Excellent Germination & Growth



As **ROYAL SEED**, we have taken the initiative of issuing **Free Seed** to different farmers in different ecological areas for trial and so far so good! We have been getting excellent feedback from the Farmers as they are still ongoing...

- **The first thing you will notice about our New Maize is that it matures faster compared to other varieties, maturity of 142 days from Sowing**



- **The plant has very strong stalk, Ear height;140cm and the cobs are big and full**



- **Good plant height; 253cm, strong prop roots**



- **Good conical cobs with Dent-like grain texture**
- With our **New Maize variety**, you are certain to harvest btw 21bags- 42bags equivalent to 1.9- 3.7tonnes per acre.
- This variety performs well **under optimum & during moderate drought.**
- **Utilizes more efficiently the small amounts of fertilizers** most farmers afford to apply to their maize, giving them higher grain yield

Remember it Starts with Good Agronomic Practices to Attain Great Yields!!

We are currently conducting Demo plots in different parts of Kenya as a way of Sensitizing farmers to this **New Maize Variety**.

Efforts to increase awareness of this **New Maize Variety will remain key**, 🙌 to ensure farmers get to enjoy a good harvest to counter the economic & ecological constraints they face.

NEW CUCUMBER VARIETY



We are always excited whenever we **Launch New Varieties!!** The best part of it all is when farmers come to embrace it and love it even more!

As we usher in the **End month of April** what better way than to close it with a **Bang!**

**This #AMAZINGAPRIL we give you
Our New Cucumber Variety!**



1. A **slicer cucumber** that produces long and slender dark green fruits with a medium number of spines, high-quality seeds.
2. The plant is vigorous, **well balanced and it creates long side shoots**.
3. This variety produces a **high yield** and is recommended for year-round cultivation.
4. It can also be successfully cultivated both **indoors & in open fields**.
5. With a **maturity period of 55-65 days from sowing**, it is highly recommended for year-round cultivation.

Did you know that we do Deliveries free of charge in Nairobi and it's Environs!!

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