



KALRO/NAVCDP Factsheet No. 016/2024

Crop Rotation in Pyrethrum

Introduction

Pyrethrum is a perennial crop which can remain economically productive for a period of 3-4 years after which a rotation is required. Crop rotation is a practice of growing different types of crops (or none at all) on the same land across a sequence of growing seasons.

Importance of crop rotation

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1. It helps to return soil nutrients depleted by previous crops to the soil without synthetic inputs.
2. The practice interrupts pest and disease cycles.
3. It improves soil health by increasing biomass from different crops' root structures, and increase biodiversity on the farm.
4. It breaks down life cycles of weeds.

How to implement crop rotation in pyrethrum production

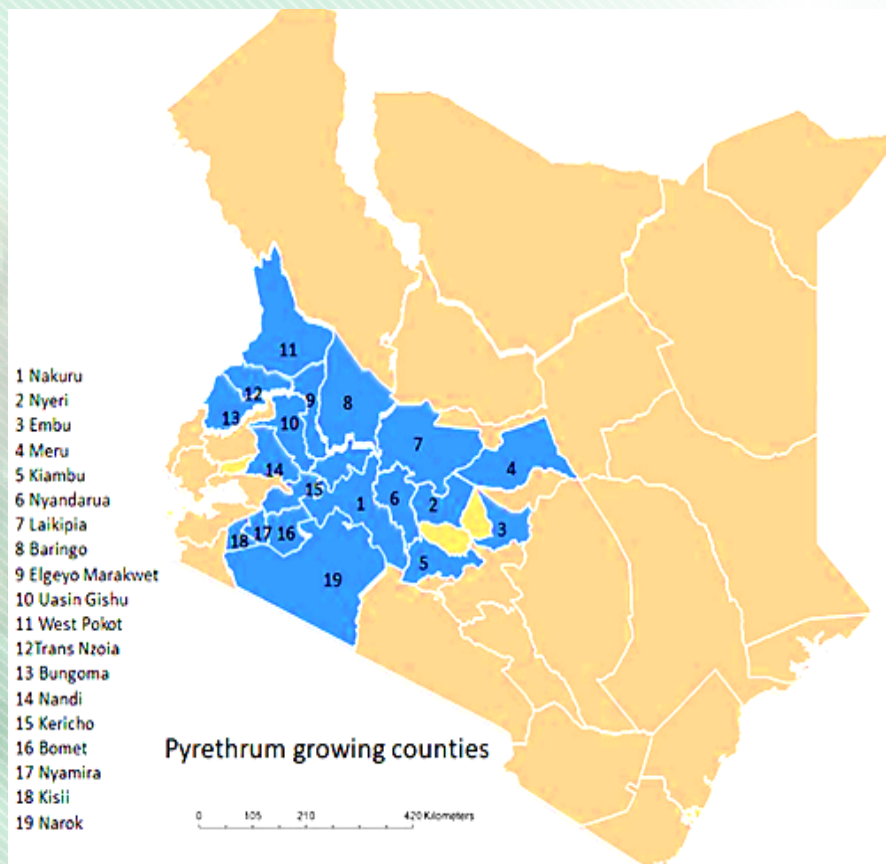
- After the 4th year of production, clonal plants should be uprooted and re-planted in clean fields, where pyrethrum had not been planted between 3-6 years before. For varietal plant material the crop should be uprooted and discarded.
- For rotation purposes, a cereal crop such as maize, wheat, barley or oats can be planted after pyrethrum.
- Do not rotate with plants from Solanaceae family like tomato, potato and eggplant as they tend to host the same pest and diseases as pyrethrum.



- Other methods of rejuvenating include leaving the field fallow.

Geographic Coverage

Nakuru, Uasin Gishu, Elgeyo-Marakwet, Nandi, Baringo, Kericho, Bomet, Narok, Laikipia, Trans-Nzoia, West Pokot, Kiambu, Nyeri, Nyandarua, Kisii, Nyamira, Meru, Embu, Bungoma and Kakamega



Counties growing pyrethrum



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