

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Banana farming

1. **What is the best climate for banana farming?**

It is suitable for warm temperate with high humidity. Temperature range from 25-30<sup>0</sup> C and relative humidity of 75-85%. On an average, 10 cm rainfall per month is suitable for banana farming. In the hilly area, it is good to farm in south-facing slope where sunlight falls for longer time in a day.

2. **What type of soil is good for banana farming?**

Fertile soil with plenty of organic substances is the best soil for banana. A bit sandy where water does not remain stagnant is suitable for banana farming. Irrigation facility is required for banana farming.

3. **How much is the cost and the income from banana farming?**

The cost of banana farming in one hectare is around NPR. 387,000 and produce banana of amount NPR. 864,000 in a year. Banana can be grown for 4-5 years in the same land. (These cost and sell amount are calculated based on the prevailing market prices as of December 2015 and may vary).

4. **How much is the production?**

Around 2,400 bunches of banana fruits can be harvested per hectare of land in a year.

5. **How many saplings are needed? What is the cost of saplings?**

A hectare of land accommodates around 2,700 saplings. The cost of one sapling based on tissue-cultured is NPR. 30-35. Therefore, the total cost per hectare is around NPR. 81,000.

6. **How many employment days are generated?**

One hectare of banana farming generates employment of around 250 person work days in a year (from nursery to marketing).

7. **What are the varieties of banana being in farming practice in Nepal?**

William, G-9 and *Malbog* variety of the banana plant is suitable for hot climate of Terai in Nepal. In hilly areas, local varieties are suitable.

8. **How to manage risk in banana farming?**

Risks associated with banana farming can be minimized through the following ways:

- Crop insurance ( *Elam project has successfully piloted crop insurance in banana crop in partnership with private insurance companies*)
- Business skills
- Farming know-how, proper utilization of inputs, pest management, timely irrigation and market linkages.

9. **From where are extension services provided?**

Banana nurseries sell quality saplings with embedded technical services to the farmers. Agriculture service centers of District Agriculture Development Office provide necessary advice and services.

10. **Where does farmer gets credit?**

Any local financial institutions, including banks provide credit for banana farming in Nepal.

11. **How to manage the waste of banana farming?**

There is opportunity of value addition, through processing based enterprise. Such as banana stem, after harvest can be used for making banana paper and thread and cloth. Nothing goes to waste out of the banana plant.

12. **Where do the quality of saplings available?**

The following banana nurseries provide quality sapling of banana (may not be the exhaustive list:

S.N	Name of farm	Proprietor Name	Nursery Location	Contract No
1	Parkesk Banana Farm Nursery and processing center	Purna Singh Saud	Bhimdatt Municipality -10 Telkeni, Kanchanpur	9858752630
2	Rajesh Banana farm, Nursery and processing Center	Surendra Chaudhary	Krishnapur VDC- 5 Gulariya, Kanchanpur	9848483525
3	Rana Tharu Banana Nursery and Processing Center	Karam Singh Rana	Beluri Municipality - 11Telkeni ,Kanchanpur	9806426361
4	Subedi Banana farm, Nursery	Ram Parsad Subedi	Tribhuwanbasti Municipality - 7,Kanchanpur	9858423013

5	Sergansil Gharelu Udyag	Ram Chaudhary Paldas	Phulbari VDC -9 Kailali	9811641931
6	Adhunik Kirsi Tatha Gadibudi Bebasaya form	Top Lal Chaudhary	Gulariya Municipality - 8 Bardiya	9848013624
7	Jaya Kishan Fruit Nursery and farm	Ajaya Yadab	Gonaha VDC -6 Dekhari Rupendehi	9807421656
8	Kushal Business Consultancy (For central and eastern regions)	Saroj Koirala	Nijgad, Bara	9845136377
9	Nepal Bio-tech Pvt. Ltd	Nabin Sahukhala	Bhaisepati, Lalitpur	9841302850
10	Nepal Biotechnology and Agroforest Pvt. Ltd	Baidhyanath Saha	Chitwan	9845486193