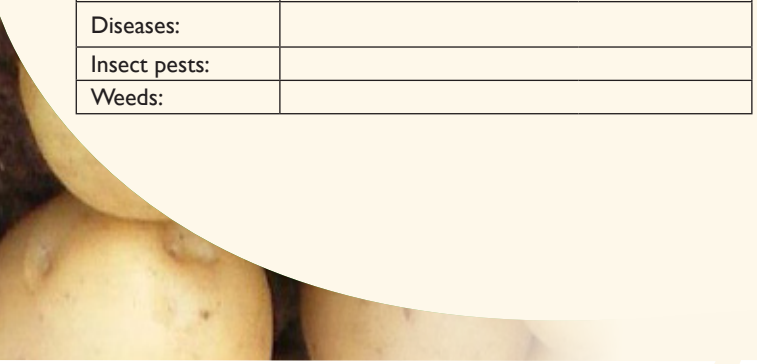
The data from potato AESA is summarized in a sheet as per example below.

| **Name of FFBS:** | **Group No (Sub group):** | |
|---|---|---|
| AESA No:<br>Plot No:<br>Problem addressed: | | Date:<br>Week No: |
| **General Information** | **Potato Agronomic Data/Parameters** | |
| Variety: | Plant Height: | |
| Date planted: | No of leaves per plant | |
| Age of crop: | % germination | |
| Spacing: | Daystp flowering | |
| Fertilizer: | Maturity date | |
| | Yields in kgs per unit area | |
| | No of tubers per plant | |
| | Avg. Weight of tubers | |
| Time of observation: | | |
| Plant population: | | |
| **Insect Pests (pests observed)** | **Plant drawing/photo** | **Natural Enemies (observed)** |
| **Observations** | **Recommendations (management practice be applied)** | |
| Soil moisture: | | |
| Diseases: | | |
| Insect pests: | | |
| Weeds: | | |

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

# AGROECOSYSTEMS ANALYSIS (AESA) IN FARMER FIELD AND BUSINESS SCHOOL (FFBS)

## Introduction

Agroecosystems analysis (AESA) is a process in which the Farmer Field and Business School (FFBS) members learn together on regular basis, the interaction between the potato crop and its environment in order to determine the best technoloies innovation and management practice to adopt. AESA measures the effects of the different treatments in the participatory technology development plots. The process is based on the FFBS principle of integrated production and pest management (IPPM). A FFBS group is divided into sub groups, and each sub group is assigned the task of carrying out the AESA process on specific treatments.

## AESA procedure

The AESA procedure is carried out in four progressive steps.

**Step one:** Observation
Involves making general observations on the physical conditions and appearance of the crop, scouting for presence of pests and diseases and observing any signs of nutritional deficiencies. It is recommended that this step is carried out in the morning when insect pests can be easily located in the field.

**Step two:** Data collection
Involves collecting data that is physically measured on the crop. The data is collected from a given number of plants per plot (e.g. 10 plants per plot) to enable the generation of an average. This step requires the use of equipment such as rulers, weighing balance, note books and pens for recording the data collected.

**Step three:** Data processing
Each sub group meets to process the data into information that can be shared. Data collected from each of the selected 10 potato plants per plot is summarized into averages for sharing with the other sub groups.

**Step four:** Data presentation

The processed data by each sub group together with results of observations are presented in a plenary comprising entire FFBS for comparison.