Use the markings on the inside of the shell as a sign of maturity. Darker marks show more mature, better groundnuts. Defoliation of leaves is not the best way to tell maturity.
Planting

1. Pick good variety: Choose an improved variety that offers pest resistance and good yields.

Use undamaged seed: Select seeds that have been stored well and are not damaged.

3. Test for germination: Before planting the entire field, plant a few seeds to make sure the seed is viable.

4. Prepare ground early: Remove weeds and prepare ground.

Fertilise evenly: If possible, fertilise with 150kg/ha DAP compound before planting.

Growing

Weed: Remove weeds within three weeks of the beginning of the season.

Scout: Scout fields regularly looking for weeds and pests.

Apply soap: Apply local soaps to reduce aphids and rosette.

Watch for leaf spot: Apply local soaps to suppress leaf-spot.

Pull on time: Harvest promptly when the nuts are mature.

Harvesting

Remove: Try to harvest when the ground is moist (if possible).

Pluck: Take pods from plants as soon as possible, or arrange in a way that allows for fast drying.

Harvest on time: Harvest promptly to avoid mold, which can lead to aflatoxin.

Remove: Take enough good pods for seed for the next crop.

Store: Put groundnuts in a cool and dry area.