

# Seed Potatoes

## Information on Growing Seed Potatoes

From Henry Street Garden Centre. *The gardener's choice*

### Early Seed Potatoes

Plant them out in mid-March after chitting the tubers. Harvest June/July.

#### Accord (2)

Replacement for Accent. Long yellow tubers. High yielding very early crop. Good resistance to slugs. Boil / Salad

#### Arran Pilot (3)

Kidney shaped, white flesh. Heavy cropper, good on light soils. Good flavour. Boil / Wedges / Roast

#### Foremost (3)

Oval, pale yellow tubers: creamy white flesh. Good cropper. Boil / Salad / Roast

#### Lady Christl

Superb in containers, v early, firm oval pale skinned tubers.

#### Pentland Javelin (4)

Oval, white fleshed tubers. Heavy cropper with good scab / eelworm resistance. Waxy texture. Boil

#### Premiere

Oval yellow fleshed tubers. Excellent yielding, good flavour. Boil / chipped

#### Red Duke of York (4)

Kidney shaped red skins & yellow flesh. Good on all soils and has excellent flavour. Boil

#### Rocket (4)

Very early variety. Round tubers with white skin & flesh. Firm waxy texture. Boil

#### Swift (4)

Round oval tubers with white skin / lemon yellow flesh. Early bulking. Boil / Wedges / Roast

#### Vales Emerald

Maris Peer / Charlotte cross. Excellent yielding oval tubers. Boil

### Second Early Potatoes

Plant early April. Harvest July / August.

#### Charlotte (4)

Pale yellow skin, yellow flesh & firm texture. Superb salad variety. Boil / Salad

#### Estima (4)

Oval, pale yellow fleshed tubers. Heavy cropper. Firm moist texture. Boil / Bake / Wedges

#### Kestrel

Oval yellow skinned tubers. Firm yellow flesh. Bake / Roast / Chip & boil. Resistant to slug damage.

#### Nicola (4)

Long oval tuber, yellow skin / flesh. Salad

#### Wilja (4)

Oval tuber with yellow skin & flesh. High yields. Boil / Chip / Roast / Mash

### Maincrop Potatoes

#### Cara

Pink eyed, round oval tubers. Creamy flesh, high yields. Bake / roast / sauté

#### Desiree (5)

Red skin with yellow flesh. Heavy cropper, drought resistance. Boil / Wedges / Baking / Chipping / Mash

#### King Edward (6)

Kidney shaped tubers, white skin with pink tints. Baking / Chipping / Roasting / Mash

#### Maris Piper (5)

Short oval tubers, cream flesh. Floury texture Stores well. Boil / Baking / Roasting / Mash

#### Picasso (3)

Oval tubers, creamy white flesh. Boiling / Roast / Sauté / Mash

#### Pink Fir Apple (3)

Irregular shaped tubers with nutty taste. Specialist salad variety

*The numbers in brackets relate to texture.*

*1 = Waxy, 9= Floury. Waxy potatoes are firmer & hold their shape.*

### Chitting

In order to get your potatoes off to a good start it is necessary to chit the seed potatoes. This involves placing them upright in a light airy room at approx. 10°C (50°F) until the shoots are about 2.5cm long. (They need to be green in colour – if they are white there is not enough light)



### Looking after the Crop

Once chitted plant out the potatoes 30-40cm apart in rows, the rows being 60-75cm apart. Earth the row up once the shoots are about 25cm above the ground. Keep the plants well-watered in dry weather. Planting – plant earlies from mid March through to April /May for maincrop varieties. Feed with potato food to increase yield. In wet Summers, watch out for potato blight and treat with Bayer Fruit & Vegetable Disease Control

### Harvesting

Earlies – June/July  
2nd Earlies – Late July / August  
Maincrop - September / October

### Potatoes in a Tub

Potatoes can be grown even if you have very limited space. Using a large deep tub, place about 5cm of compost in the bottom. Place 5 or 6 seed potatoes on the compost and then add more compost until the potatoes are just covered. Once they have shoots about 5cm above the compost level add more compost. Continue this until the tub is full. Water the tub regularly and harvest the potatoes when ready. This is a great way to get a really early crop as it can be started off in a greenhouse or sunny patio.



### Potatoes for Christmas

Put aside some of your early crop & replant in a sunny spot in September. Cover with cloches from October & with luck you can show off your new potatoes with your turkey!!



For more info and help visit  
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