



Growing Potatoes

This popular crop is relatively easy to grow; here are some important tips:

Planting

Potatoes require well-drained soil; amend any soil prior to planting with about 2" depth of peat moss or compost (avoid heavy applications of manure or compost, this can cause scab)

- Dig a trench about 4-6" deep and lay seed potatoes in trench with main sprouts facing up. Small tubers should be left whole, while large ones can be cut (ensure at least one or two 'eyes' remain)
- Cover seed potatoes with 2-3" of lightly packed soil and water in well.

Hill Up

- The potatoes should be hilled when foliage of plants is about 6-8" tall
- Using your hands, rake or a shovel, add 4-6" of soil around the plants, leaving a few inches exposed to sunlight
- During the growing season, continue to hill as needed to cover exposed potatoes



Greenland carries several varieties of seed potatoes, here are some we suggest:

(S = Scab Resistant)

Red Potatoes

Norland (S) - White flesh, red skin. Early yielding potato with medium to large potatoes, adapts well to poor soils, stores well.

Pontiac - White flesh, deep red skin. Early to mid-season tubers are great for baby potatoes. Does well in clay.



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Sangre - White flesh, dark red skin. Mid-season with good yields and great storability.

Russet Potatoes

Russet Burbank (S) - White flesh russet skin. Late producers, good for boiling and baking. Stores well.

Yellow Potatoes

Butterfly (S) - mid season deep yellow gourmet selection good for boiling, baking, frying.

Smart (S) - yellow flesh and skin, buttery taste on this high yielding gourmet variety. Good storage, great for baby potatoes, baking, boiling.

Orchestra (S) - high yielding variety produces large yellow potatoes excellent for baking, boiling and salads. Great storage.

Satina (S) - Yellow flesh, yellow skin. Early to mid tubers good for baking, boiling, great for storage.

Yukon Gold - Mid season potato with yellow flesh and yellow skin.

White Potatoes

Kennebec - White flesh tan skin. Mid to large sized tubers in mid-late summer. Good baker, boiler and fryer, great storage.

Specialty Potatoes

Caribe (S) - White flesh, purple-red skin. Early yield, very tasty, high yield and stores well.

Banana (S) - White flesh, yellow skin. Long, banana shaped potatoes with mild taste. Excellent for roasting, baking, boiling.



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Violet Queen (S) - long oval deep purple tubers with classic potato taste. Good storage, use for boiling, baking, steaming; retains colour when cooked.

Zina Red - Fresh market specialty potato has dark red oval tubers with yellow flesh. High yielding variety good for boiling baking frying.

French Fingerling (S) - Red flesh with red skin, long finger-like tubers. Colour remains even when cooked.

Locally Grown, Earth Apples provides gardeners with innovative, organic potato varieties. Here are some to try:

Jazzy - decadent, buttery tasting potatoes are perfect for roasting and grilling.

Lady Amarilla - large yellow fleshed potatoes perfect for homemade fries and baked potatoes.

Little Giant - a popular market variety, little giant produces a heavy amount of beautiful baby potatoes.



Purple Magic - unique purple skin and flesh with a white ring, great for potato chips, roasting and salads.

Rosemarie - fingerling type with pretty pink skin and flesh looks amazing in potato salad, wonderful flavour.

Potato Scab

Potato scab is a bacterial disease that causes raised corky scabs on tubers. The bacteria overwinters on living roots of weeds and infected tubers left in the garden.

To prevent scab:

- Purchase clean tubers from a reputable source and choose scab resistant varieties.
- Rotate the spot you plant potatoes every 4 years.
- Scab thrives in alkaline soil; bring down the pH by tossing a handful of garden sulphur into each planting hole.



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- Scab can occur if moisture is not consistent at time of tuber development. Always ensure adequate soil moisture as tubers form (once potatoes start blooming).

Insect Pests

If potatoes are grown in areas where sod/grass once was, wireworm can be a common pest. To prevent wireworm damage, water in tubers with a solution of beneficial nematodes.

Flea Beetle is another common pest; adults feed on foliage and lay eggs which hatch into larvae that will damage tubers. When planting tubers cover with row cover; this will prevent adults from laying eggs and feeding on plants. Cover must be removed once plants start to bloom.



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