

Constance.



(MARABEL x AR 93-1243)

Market Outlet:
Table, Baking & Organic

General

Constance is a yellow skinned, pale yellow fleshed table potato, suitable for general use. With early development after planting, this is a good early maincrop variety, with oval round tubers of regular shape and shallow eyes. It produces good sized tubers that are resistant to secondary growth and growth cracks. This variety is well suited on most soil types. With a medium dry matter of 20%, it eats well and retains its colour after peeling. It has a buttery taste and smooth texture making it ideal for mashing, boiling or baking.

Maturity

Early Maincrop

Cultivation

Constance is easy to grow and suitable for production on most soil types. However, do not plant it on soils with free living nematodes as it is susceptible to internal defects caused by them. Do not de-sprout the seed more than once. Do not cut the seed as the eyes tend to form at one end of the tuber. For good tuber numbers, the planting distance at size 35/55mm should be 30cm (45,000 plants per Ha). Allow a wider planting if the crop is being grown for bakers. Use of Metribuzin (eg. Sencorex) can give some discolouration to the foliage but no yield reduction.

Fertiliser Treatment Suggestions

It is advised to apply 200-225Kg per Ha of Nitrogen to produce a good yield. Constance also needs a good level of Phosphate to ensure the plant roots itself well. Potassium (K_2O) application levels of 10% above the recommended standard are advised due to the sensitivity to harvest damage. By applying extra potash, this will help to minimise any bruising. A standard blight protection package is recommended, especially during the late season as Constance is quite susceptible. Wait at least 3 weeks after haulm killing before harvesting to allow for a good skin set as Constance can be susceptible to harvest damage, although not to bruising.

Storage

Constance is a medium storage variety which can be stored until March at a temperature of 4-5°C. Do not treat the tubers with CIPC / Chlorpropham during harvest, as the skin is sensitive to damage caused by these chemicals. If using chemicals it is best to use a gas formulation.

Resistance

Constance is tolerant to secondary growth and growth cracks. It has good virus resistance and heat tolerance.

Agronomic Information

Scoring (1= low / poor, 9= high / excellent)

Average Yield 7

Disease Resistance

Quality

Tuber Shape Round Oval

Uniformity of shape 7

Eye Depth 7

Skin Colour Yellow

Flesh Colour Pale Yellow

Dry Matter (%) 20

Foliage Blight 5

Tuber Blight 5

Alternaria (Early Blight)

Common Scab 6

Powdery Scab 2

Virus Y 8

Virus Yntn 7

Virus A

Virus X 7

Spraing 5

Silver Scurf

Fusarium (Dry Rot) 6

PCN—Ro1 & 4 Susceptible

PCN—Pallida Susceptible

Wart Disease Susceptible

Agronomy

Dormancy 6

Foliage Maturity 7

Tuber Number (score) 6

Resistance to damage 5

Resistance to bruising 8

Secondary Growth 7

Flower Colour White

Leaf Roll Virus

Blackleg 6

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