

Mercury Russet

Mercury Russet is an early Russet variety. Pre-cut seed to a size of 2.5 to 3.0 oz. and allow seed to suberize before planting. To obtain maximum marketable size tubers, seed tubers should be planted at in-row spacing of 12 to 13 inches, with between row spacing of 34 inches. Available nitrogen (N) (residual soil N + irrigation water N + applied N) rate required for optimum tuber yield and quality should be between 140 to 150 lb N/A. This recommendation does not include nitrate nitrogen mineralization from previous crop stubble and from soil organic matter. To gain early plant vigor, and to obtain maximum tuber yield, apply about 60-65% of the required seasonal N pre-plant or at planting. Apply the remaining N rate requirement in split applications during the growing season.

Begin in-season N application after tuber formation. Finishing N application early in the season is recommended. Optimum petiole nitrate N concentration should range from 22,000 ppm at 50 days after planting (DAP) down to 6,000 ppm at 70 DAP for maximum total tuber yield. To maximize marketable tuber yield, petiole nitrate N concentration should range from 16,000 ppm at 50 DAP down to 8,000 ppm at 70 DAP.

Do not plan on vine kill. The vines of Mercury Russet will die naturally when tubers are mature. A total of 15 inches of irrigation water throughout the growing season is sufficient, while maintaining soil moisture content above 65 to 70%. Tubers can be harvested between 90 to 100 days after planting.