

Growing Potatoes - Ted Perren – 11 February 2020

Potato Competition = 12 July at the NVS Open Garden event. 1.30pm 'Cricketers View' SO20 8BU

This year we are growing an early variety so do not expect the high yields Ted achieved last year, as that was a main crop potato.

Wash the potato and put in Milton solution as per the instructions on the bottle for 30 minutes.

Compost – good quality – Ted uses Erin from InExcess. Alternatively M3 from Levingston's. Cheaper composts would probably need to be sifted to remove the added debris.

Need 17l good quality compost per bag.

Please note: update from Ted - 8oz of additional ingredients is for **70 litres** of compost.

For each **17 litres** of compost, mix in **2oz or 55g** of each of the following:

2oz / 55g Vitax Q4

2oz / 55g John Innes base

2oz / 55g calcified seaweed

2oz / 55g hoof and horn.

Put a few extra holes in the bag to allow the roots to grow through.

Plant late March.

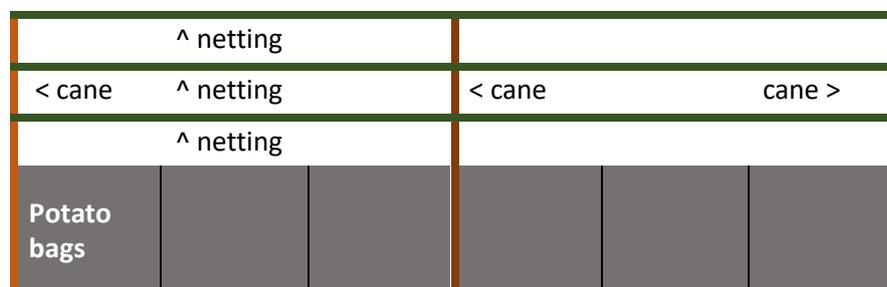
Leave maximum 3 chits on each potato.

Put a couple of inches of compost into the bag, put in the potato, then add compost to half way up bag. As it grows, gradually top up the compost but do not bury the shoots.

If you cannot grow in a greenhouse, plant against a south wall. Put down plenty of manure or compost as a base for the roots to grow down into and a couple of handfuls of potato fertiliser. Keep well-watered.

Support the foliage. Set up the supports before it grows.

Ted has previously advised to place some canes around the bags and stretch over several horizontal layers of netting spaced roughly about 12" / 30cm apart. Wide mesh such as pea and bean netting works well. The potatoes haulms will grow up through the netting.



Keeping the haulms upright makes watering much easier.

Spray regularly with SB plant invigorator along with the recommended strength Maxi Crop.

Later in the season, add a 5g per litre of baking powder to help guard against pests.

If standing in the sun, shade the bag to avoid the roots burning.