

CARIBOU RUSSET

Agronomic Highlights – Dry Land

Caribou Russet is an Maincrop Russet type variety (105-110 DAP) that produces a high yield of large light skinned attractive tubers good. It produces a vigorous vine and is heat and drought tolerant. Caribou is a dual purpose variety; fresh and processing.

SEED MANAGEMENT:

Caribou Russet has a "relatively short" tuber dormancy. Maintain seed dormancy until just prior to cutting and planting. Ensure seed is > 42 F when handled. Tubers should be showing signs of "pipping" just in advance of planting. Seed should be cut to a target seed size distribution of 75-85 % between 1.5 – 3.0 ounces and minimize seed piece less than 1.5 oz. in weight. Average seed piece weight targets should not be targeted as it is highly dependent upon the mother seed lot size.

Caribou Russet can be pre-cut and suberized 7-10 days before planting, use of a drying agent is highly suggested.

Use of a seed piece treatment that gives excellent control of Rhizoctonia, **Fusarium**, Silver scurf is highly recommended. The use of an in-furrow fungicide is highly recommended.

IN ROW SPACING:

[Dry Land Spacing: 10.5 - 11.5 inch]

This is based on linear row planting, not bed plantings. Caribou Russet will produce a high percentage of tubers > 3.0 inch diameter if the in-row spacing is wider than 11 inch and yield may decline

STRENGTHS:

Common scab, Hollow Heart, Growth Cracks, Secondary Growth, net Necrosis, Verticillium wilt, Black spot bruising, Large Tuber Size with few smalls, Fry Colour

FERTILITY

P, K, Mg and micros nutrients are to be based on local soil tests results, crop yield estimates and nutrient removal rate. Yield targets of 350-400 cwt/acre should be used.

However, Caribou Russet does not require a large amount of N compared to other Russet type varieties like R. Norkotah. Higher N rates will delay maturity and skin set.

A total N rate of 160-170 lb/acre is common for commercial production on mineral soils and organic type soils. Ideally all applied by planting but can be side dressed.

Allow soil or rotation N credits in the total N amount.

Compensate N for high C:N rotation crops (corn, sudan grass...)

If the crop is to be side-dressed, then ~110-120 lb/acre N should be applied by planting and the balance by tuber initiation.

Sandy soils (CEC 5-8) may require 10-15% more total N. Monitor N levels using petiole N sampling on a weekly basis beginning after 40-45 DAP.

Petiole N levels should be ~18-20000 ppm during early bulking(45-60 DAP).

COMMENTS:

Caribou Russet sets ~6-9 tubers per plant.

Caribou Russet produces 1-3 stems per plant

It can require up to 20-22 days from top-kill to harvest. Ensure tubers are mature before harvest.

Avoid harvesting in dry soil conditions.

Harvest tubers when the tuber temperature is > 45 F or < 60 F to prevent black spot bruising.

If Caribou Russet is to be stored for long term, use of a post-harvest fungicide is suggested and **early CIPC treatment will be required.**

Caribou Russet produces a large vigorous plant type with early vine vigor.

Caribou Russet is tolerant to metribuzin based herbicides.

Caribou Russet has a moderate drv matter (1.082-1.085)

DISEASE(S):

Caribou has no known resistances to diseases so it requires a standard Late Blight and or Early Blight fungicide program that is typical in the production area.

Other intermediate protectant sprays should be with Mancozeb or chlorothionil based fungicides

Moderate resistance to Verticillium wilt

Moderate resistance to Common scab

Avoid coarse sandy fields in hot production regions