

NECTAR

Agronomic Highlights – Irrigated

Nectar is a very high yielding late Maincrop (105-110) variety that has a light yellow flesh. Nectar produces a very uniform, medium to large profile crop of oval shaped tubers. The tuber appearance skin is bright, smooth and attractive. A great late season storing variety.

SEED MANAGEMENT:

Nectar has a medium-**long** dormancy. Maintain seed dormancy until just prior to cutting and planting. Ensure seed is > 42 F when handling. Tubers should be showing signs of “**pipping**” just in advance of planting and avoid de-sprouting the variety. 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.

The use of a drying agent at seed cutting is highly recommended.

Nectar can be successfully pre-cut and suberized .

Minimize bruising during handling.

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 recommended.

IN ROW SPACING:

[Irrigated Spacing: 11.5-12.5 inch]

This is based on linear row planting, not bed plantings.

. Nectar can produce a high percentage of tubers > 3.0 inch diameter if the in-row spacing is > than 12.5 inch

STRENGTHS:

Yield, Heat and drought tolerance, Hollow Heart, Rhizoctonia, Silver Scurf, Black dot, Secondary Growth, Mechanical damage, good bright smooth skin finish.

FERTILITY

P, K, Mg and micro nutrients are to be based on local soil tests results, crop yield estimates and nutrient removal rate. Yield targets of 700-800 cwt/acre should be used.

Nectar does require a larger amount of N compared to some other Yellow flesh type varieties as it has a higher than average yield potential.

A total N rate of 220-240 lb/acre is common for commercial production on irrigated mineral soil types, ideally 55-65% of the total N should be split between pre plant and planter, up to 70-80 lb/acre N and the balance applied at or post tuber initiation. The balance weekly, not exceeding 15-20 lb/acre N per week

Maintain petiole N levels between 16000-19000 post row closure and during tuber bulking until 3 weeks prior to top kill

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

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

Sandy soils (CEC 5-8) may require 20-25% more total N. Monitor N levels using petiole N sampling on a weekly basis beginning after 40-45 DAP. Total N requirement could be as high as 275-300 lb/acre N

Ideally when possible, the use of potassium sulfate should be considered as a substitute for potassium chloride or minimize the usage of chloride based sources

COMMENTS:

Nectar sets ~15-18 tubers per plant.

Nectar produces 3.0-4.0 stems per plant

Nectar produces a semi vigorous vine.

Minimize field conditions that would allow for standing water.

It can require up to 21 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.

Avoid mechanical damages.

Nectar can be successfully stored long term with minimal silver scurf or black dot development

If Nectar is to be stored for long term, use of a post-harvest fungicide is suggested.

Irrigation is highly suggested for maximum yields, however, avoid over irrigating late in the growth cycle

Avoid use of Metribuzin post-emergent applications, pre emergence applications only

Skin set is faster than most yellows flesh varieties

DISEASE(S):

Nectar requires a standard Late Blight and Early Blight fungicide program that is typical in the production area.

Avoid fields with a known history of compaction, poor drainage and powdery scab.

Avoid fields with a known history of common scab