

## Potato Day 2017 Varieties

\* = Organic, # = Black Isle / locally grown, (year introduced, parent x parent)

### First Earlies

**Abbot** (2012, Asterix x RH88-025-050)

Round oval, white flesh, high dry matter - unusual for an early. Could be a good general purpose early (very early?). Good eelworm and general problem resistance.

**Arran Pilot** (1930, May Queen x Pepo)

Very good, tasty, new potato; widely grown and popular. Highly resistant to scab, susceptible to drought.

**Casablanca** \* (2009, 85G040-080 x Picasso)

The "new Maris Bard", white with shallow eyes, good for chipping, baking, boiling. Very early.

**Colleen** \* (1993, Manna x Mizen)

Good multipurpose potato, high yielding; waxy, yet mealy, pale yellow. Boils and fries well. Reasonable blight resistance.

**Duke of York** (1891, Early Primrose x King Kidney)

**Pink Duke of York** (c.1950, Duke of York variant)

**Red Duke of York** (1942, Duke of York variant)

Floury and excellent flavour, but a big disadvantage: very susceptible to blight on both leaves and tubers. Red skin / pink skin / yellow skin, pale yellow flesh, oval shape. Best fried, roasted, mashed or baked; boil carefully.

**Epicure** (1897?, Magnum Bonum x Early Regent)

Round, deep eyed, white, fairly floury, flesh. Reputed to withstand leaf frost damage better than most.

**Foremost** (1954, Katahdin x (Epicure x Pepo) )

A gardeners' favourite, round oval, easy scrubbing, tasty. More floury than most, good baker if allowed to grow.

**Lady Christl** (1996, WS 73-3-391 x Mansour)

A very good waxy salad potato, very early - a week or so later than Swift / Rocket. Moderate foliar blight resistance, good tuber blight resistance. Long oval shape, white skin, yellow flesh. Recommended.

**Maris Bard** \* (1972, Y15 139 x Ulster Prince)

Early, high yielding, oval, waxy, white. Traditional earthy taste, good new potato, more general purpose if left to mature.

**Orla** \* (1998, O.P. 657/3 x Spunta)

Currently the most blight resistant first early. Can be used as a decent early new potato or grown on as a maincrop when it becomes more general purpose. Stores well, long dormancy. Oval, white.

**Pentland Javelin** \* (1968, Craigs Royal x 2356(11) x USDA 41956 x Austr. Seedling)

White, oval, good flavoured new potato. Tends to bulk up later than most first earlies.

**Rocket** (1987, F12/17 x D42/8)

Along with Swift the earliest cropping potato available in UK. Round and white, decent crop of smaller tubers. Very good eelworm resistance.

**Sharpe's Express** \* (1900)

Another tasty one that's on the floury side. Rated as poor blight resistance but some I've grown have had surprisingly good resistance. Somewhat irregular oval shape, white flesh. Does well locally.

**Winston** (1992, Kismet x DXMP70 ( Desiree x Maris Piper) )

Pretty, cream, round oval. Good all round disease and pest resistance.

## **Second Earlies**

### **Anya** (1996, Desiree x Pink Fir Apple)

A favourite boiled potato, slightly nutty taste. Less knobbly than Pink Fir Apple and has similar flavour; scrub, don't peel. Unimpressive plants, avoid shading with tall varieties, does well in some seasons but not others.

### **Apache** (2010, Stroma x S. phureja seedling)

Attractive piebald red / white skin, roundish tubers, yellow flesh. Just scrub and roast – yummy. Steam rather than boil.

### **Athlete** (2013?, AR 99-263-5 x Miriam)

Produces lots of even sized smallish potatoes for salad use but also high dry matter so should be more versatile. Light yellow flesh, oval, 'earthy flavour'. Good blight resistance.

### **Bonnie** (2006, Estima x 83N28-47)

White with red eye splashes, short oval, cream flesh, moderately floury general purpose, bakes well.

### **British Queen** (1894, Patersons Victoria x Old Blue Don)

Excellent old fashioned floury, high dry matter potato but doesn't disintegrate when boiled gently. Recently awarded RHS Award of Garden Merit, good yields and flavour. Oval, white.

### **Catriona** (1920, McGill and Smiths seedling 10.264 A 10.612)

Oval, quite floury pale yellow flesh, white with purple splashes round eyes - pretty. Good flavour and all round cooker.

### **Charlotte** (1981, Hansa x Danae)

Good flavour, high yielding, waxy, salad type. Very popular. Oval, yellow fleshed.

### **International Kidney** (1879? 1966?)

AKA "Jersey Royal" but dig it early to be like that, becomes more floury and general purpose if grown on.

### **Jazzy** (2009, Franceline x Cupido)

A tattie with its own website, apparently good boiled, steamed, crushed or roasted! Long oval, waxy, pale yellow flesh.

### **Juliette** (1997, Nicola x Hansa)

Long oval, cream fleshed, salad / boiling potato. Good flavour, recommended.

### **Kestrel** (1992, Solanum vernei x Cara)

Pretty, tasty, high yielding, general purpose but slightly on the waxy side. Good for most uses, even roasts OK, and very good baked. White with purple eyes, light yellow flesh.

### **Marfona** (1975, Primura x KO 51-123)

Fairly waxy, short oval, pale yellow flesh, boils well. Buttery flavour and good size make it a good baker.

### **Maris Peer #** (1966, 120/13 x Ulster Knight)

A good salad / boiling potato - especially if eaten soon after digging; popular, waxy. Oval, cream flesh.

### **Milva \*** (1970, Nena and Dunja)

Slightly waxy, very high yielding, oval, pale yellow flesh. Good all-rounder, best boiled and baked, good flavour. Good blight resistance, good eelworm and general disease resistance, suits organic growing.

### **Nicola** (1973, Clivia x 6430 / 1011)

Produces large number of uniform, smooth oval potatoes good for boiling. Good eelworm resistance.

### **Paris #** (2014?, Hansa x Felsina)

High yield of smallish boilers - aimed at Maris Peer, round oval, light yellow flesh, medium dry matter. Fair eelworm and general disease resistance except blight.

### **Piccolo Star #** (2007, Ausonia x VE 74-120)

Produces a large number of tubers for salad / new potato use. Smooth oval, yellow flesh, has impressed some locals.

### **Sagitta #** (1961, Schwalbe x (adg 54 3 14 34 x Oberarnbacher Fruhe) )

Oval, yellow fleshed and often fairly large potatoes, high yields. Highish dry matter, good chipper / general purpose.

### **Wilja** (1967, Climax x Konst 51-123)

Good general purpose, high yield of biggish oval yellow fleshed potatoes. Good flavour, does well for me here.

## **Early Maincrop**

### **Ambo \*** (1993, Desiree x Cara)

Part red skin, large-ish potatoes. Quite floury general purpose, cooks well in all ways. High yield and decent blight resistance.

### **Bambino \*** (2005, Navan x Boxer)

Produces a large number of medium sized round oval, cream fleshed potatoes, good for new potato use. Good flavour, yield and general pest / disease resistance.

### **Bikini #** (2012?, T2532/64 x Red Cara)

Piebald red / white, round oval, yellow flesh. Quite floury and high dry matter, use for chips, mash, roast.

### **Blue Belle** (2007, Sylvia x Cara)

Oval, white skin with distinctive, purple/blue eye patches. A good general purpose potato with fine flavour. Does well in bags and boxes. Pale yellow flesh.

### **Camel #** (2014?, Rosara x RZ-97-6139)

Red skinned, oval, cream flesh. Medium dry matter, very good eelworm and scab resistance, moderate blight resistance, boil / bake?

### **Carolus** (2014, Agria x AR 00-9417)

Pink / white skins, oval, light yellow flesh, high-ish dry matter general purpose, excellent roast and good flavour. Very good blight resistance but susceptible to scab, high yields. Good.

### **Constance #** (2014?, Marabel x AR 93-1243 )

Round oval, pale yellow flesh, medium dry matter. Poor eelworm resistance but otherwise reasonable all round resistance. Bake, mash, boil, said to have good and buttery taste.

### **Desiree** (1962, Urgenta x Depesche)

Bright red skin, high yields of big potatoes, good all round cooking qualities and Delia have made this a favourite.

### **Foxton \*** (1981, Irene x Maris Piper)

Red skin, light yellow flesh, short oval; floury and high dry matter yet firm / general purpose. Decent all round disease resistance except eelworm so suited to organic growing.

### **Gatsby \*** (2013, Saxon x Valor)

Early bulking maincrop aimed at baker niche, said to be Estima-like, some foliar blight resistance and good eelworm resistance, cream flesh.

### **Highland Burgundy Red** (old, unknown)

Red inside! High dry matter, floury, possibly slightly sweet. Makes tasty, fluffy pink mash, fries well, roasts OK. Yields surprisingly well. A good potato. Long oval, red skin and flesh.

### **Innovator #** (2004-ish, Shepody x RZ-84-2580)

A russet skinned, high dry matter, floury, cream coloured flesh, often large round to oval potato. Good flavour, yields, good roast and mash, very good blight resistance. Recommended.

### **King Edward #** (1902, Magnum Bonam x Beauty of Hebron )

The reference roasting potato but seems to be more suited to the south than here.

### **Lady Amarilla #** (2008, Agria x Hermes)

Recent crisping / french fries introduction. Oval, yellow fleshed, high dry matter, stores very well.

### **Lady Balfour #** (2001, 8204 A4 x 15119 AC5 )

Vigorous, tall plants that do well in low fertility conditions, bred for organic growing, high yields. Good disease resistance, including partial double eelworm. Large oval white tubers with pink eye splashes.

### **Linda** (1974, Clivia x Hansa)

A "Save Linda" campaign by German organic growers kept this one alive when its rights owner dropped it in 2004. Yellow skin and flesh, oval. Good and tasty general purpose maincrop, worth growing.

**Lionheart #** (2011, Symfonia x Victoria)

Recent chipping variety, should be good roast and mashed. Long, pale yellow flesh, high dry matter. Very high yields, susceptible to blight and eelworm.

**Manhattan #** (2013, Saxon x 94G 165-021)

Short oval, cream flesh, high dry matter. General purpose / baker, said to have good flavour.

**Maris Piper #** (1963, (Sol Andigena x Ulster Knight) x (Arran Cairn x Herald) )

The chippies favourite but slugs like it, too. Good yields and flavour, excellent for frying and mashing. Oval, cream flesh, large tubers. Has many competitors.

**Navan #** (1987, S62/47/1 x Maris Piper)

Oval, cream fleshed, high dry matter chipper, large tubers and yields. Try a few to compare with Maris Piper?

**Pentland Dell #** (1960 Roslin Chania x Roslin Sasumua)

Was blight immune until blight discovered sex, no longer so. Good yields of big tubers for general purpose, bakers, chips and up market crisps. Some slug resistance. Cream flesh.

**Performer #** (2014?, Nika x Innovator)

Recent chipper / general purpose, long oval, russet skin, pale yellow flesh, high dry matter, floury, fluffy. Very good eelworm resistance, good general disease resistance, tall plants.

**Pink Gypsy \*** (2009, Symfonia x Spey)

Piebald pink / white, long oval, white flesh, medium dry matter. Boil, bake, general purpose? Stores well, decent disease resistance except blight, said to have excellent flavour.

**Record \*** (1932, various - possibly including Epicure)

Dominated the UK crisping industry in its early days, high dry matter (floury) and very good flavour. Round oval, yellow skin and pale yellow flesh. Good mashed, fried and roasted. Moderate blight resistance.

**Red King Edward** (1916, variant of King Edward)

Red skinned oval, cream flesh. Some think it's better than the original King Edward. Good roaster.

**Robinta \*** (1991, RUBINIA x Ve 70-9.1992)

Round oval, red skin, cream flesh. High dry matter, fry, roast, mash. All round disease resistance suits organic growing.

**Rooster** (1991, OP 2532 64 x Pentland Ivory)

Started as a specialist crisping / frying variety but rapidly got noticed as a high yielding, floury, tasty potato. Excellent for frying and roasting, very good for mashing. OK for boiling. Oval, red skinned, yellowish flesh.

**Royal #** (2008, Midas x 92-BUY-1)

Crisping / chipping variety. Biggish tubers and yield, good roast and mashed. Danish bred, McCain using for chips.

**Salad Blue** (old, parents unknown)

This one is blue inside, too! and has beautiful flowers. Not a salad potato - floury, good for mashing and frying, decent for roasting. Good cropper if blight doesn't get it. Roundish, blue skin and flesh.

**Setanta \*** (2004, Rooster x Brodick)

A very good, floury, general purpose / roaster. Good blight and disease resistance, inherited its cooking qualities from Rooster, high yielding and pretty. Oval, red skin, light yellow flesh. Highly recommended.

**Taurus #** (2014?, Panda x RZ-87-44)

Recent crisping type; roast, mash, fry; short oval, light yellow flesh. Good eelworm and general disease resistance, but mediocre vs. blight.

## **Late Maincrop**

### **Arran Victory \*** (1912, seedling of Suttons Abundance)

A striking purple skinned, white floury fleshed potato. Excellent for mashing and frying, very good for roasting and baking. Very large plants and high yields.

### **Cara \*** (1973, A 25 19 x Ulster Glade)

Tall plants, high yields of often big potatoes, short oval with pink eyes and cream flesh. Good all round disease resistance including eelworm and moderate blight. Slightly waxy, good general purpose.

### **Golden Wonder** (1906, seedling of Early Rose)

Oval, russet skin, dense white flesh. Floury, good flavour, roasts well, excellent fryer that absorbs little fat. Best stored until after Xmas.

### **Kerr's Pink** (1917, Fortyfold x Smiths Early)

Perhaps the best roaster in my opinion. Floury, great for mashing and good for frying, too. Yields can be very good, big plant. Roundish, often deep eyes, pink flashes on white skin, white flesh.

### **Pink Fir Apple** (1850)

The legendary salad potato for winter use from store. Knobbly, irregular tubers that should be cooked whole in their skins. Yellowish flesh, excellent flavour. Plants often untidy and prone to wind damage.

### **Sarpo Mira \*** (2003, 76 PO 12 14 268 x D187)

The most blight resistant variety at the moment. Floury-ish general purpose, tubers can get big, high yielding. Stores exceptionally well, drought tolerant. Oval-ish, red skin, cream flesh. Flavour OK - can't have everything in one variety!

## **Varieties we wanted but couldn't get** & (suggested alternatives)

Accent (Lady Christl, Abbot, Arran Pilot)

Belle de Fontenay (Nicola, Juliette)

Elisabeth (Athlete, Anya)

Harlequin (Anya, Pink Fir Apple)

Sarpo Axona (Setanta, Foxton)

Saxon (Milva, Gatsby)

Sherine (Milva, Winston, Orla)

Shetland Black (Golden Wonder, Lionheart)

Swift (Abbot, Casablanca)

Trixie (Catriona, British Queen)

## **Suggestions**

**Blight resistant:** Sarpo Mira, Innovator; Athlete, Orla, Milva, Setanta, Carolus; Camel?, Constance?

**Eelworm resistant:** Rocket, Pentland Javelin, Maris Piper, Kestrel, Lady Christl, Casablanca, Colleen, Winston, Lady Balfour, Bambino, Milva, Nicola, Cara, Camel, Performer, Abbot, Gatsby.

**Roast:** Kerrs Pink, King Edward, Innovator, Dukes of York, Carolus, Rooster, Setanta

**Mash:** Highland Burgundy Red (pink), Salad Blue (lavender), Arran Victory, Dukes of York, British Queen, Sharpes Express, Maris Piper, Blue Belle, most high dry matter maincrops

**Fry:** Maris Piper, Record, Golden Wonder, Colleen, Performer, Lionheart, Lady Amarilla, Lady Valora

**Bake:** Orla, Winston, Bonnie, Milva, Marfona, Kestrel, Gatsby, Pink Gypsy, Manhattan, Constance, Ambo, Lady Balfour

**Scrub and boil...**

First Earlies: Arran Pilot, Lady Christl, Casablanca, Maris Bard, Pentland Javelin, Foremost

Second Earlies: Anya, Athlete, Charlotte, Juliette, Maris Peer, Nicola, Paris, Piccolo Star

Maincrop: Bambino, Pink Fir Apple, Constance?