Seed Potato Varieties Remaining

First Earlies

Accent (1989) x 10
One of the best general purpose first earlies and earlier than most, only serious problem is susceptability to tuber blight (their resistance to foliar blight is reasonable). Good flavour. Round shape, yellowish flesh.

Dunluce (1976 Saskia x K 126 Clarke) x 5
Decent flavoured, loose skinned new potato, matures to be more general purpose. Poor blight resistance. Oval / round shape, white-yellow flesh.

Second Earlies

Piccolo Star x 40
Produces a large number of tubers for salad / new potato use. Smooth oval, yellow flesh. Low-ish blight resistance.

Saxon (1992 Kingston x Desiree) x 70
High yielding, good flavour, general purpose. Good baker, produces uniform large-ish tubers. Oval, cream flesh.

Smile (Rode Eersteling x SVP) x 200
Named for it's red skin with white 'smiles' (crescent moon shapes). It's breeding has Red Duke of York in it, Alan Romans says "the flavour and texture are close to Red Duke of York" so worth trying. Good yields of medium tubers. Cream flesh.

Early Maincrop

97Z55B10 x 12
This one is pot luck, I couldn't find out anything about it! It's long oval, piebald red and white skin - quite attractive, yellowish flesh. Looks like a salad potato. Just cooked and eaten one and it's actually quite a good salad potato - surprising since been stored and treated as a seed potato, not for eating. The skin's a bit thick but it pops off very easily after cooking.

Blue Belle (2007 Sylvia x Cara) x 40
White skin with distinctive, purple/blue eye patches. A good general purpose potato with excellent flavour. Reputedly does well in bags and boxes. Mid yellow flesh.

Blue Danube x 30
(AR description) This is a "new" Sarpo variety although they don't use the prefix on a variety they don't regard as blight resistant - it is still more resistant than any other non-Sarpo variety!- particularly if the very high tuber blight resistance is considered. Beautiful blue skin with pale flesh. It has full yellow eelworm resistance. When first trialled as "Adam's Blue" this was well received both for flavour and appearance Oval, purple skin and white flesh.

Cabaret (2001) x 50
An attractive Maris Piper type. Productive, good flavour. Oval, white.

Ditta (1989 Bintje x Quarta) x 50
An austrian bred salad potato, said to have good flavour. Moderate foliar blight resistance, high tuber blight resistance. Long oval, yellow flesh.

Flourball (1895?) x 100
AR says "This is a legendary Irish floury potato bred by Miss King of Mount Mellick and released through Sutton's in 1895. Round, red and with deep eyes. The flavour is intense - one for the lovers of Arran Victory, Golden Wonder and Dunbar Rover." I want some!

Harlequin (2003 Charlotte x Pink Fir Apple) x 40
With those parents it should be a special salad potato and taste tests give it very high praise. Long, slightly tapered oval shape, smooth like Charlotte rather than knobbly like PFA, skin is flushed pink at the blunt end. I'll be trying this, for sure.

Hermes (1993 DDR 5158 x SW 163/55) x 40
Very widely grown for the crisp industry. High dry matter, floury, tasty, should be good for mash and roast. High yields and vigorous. Round oval, yellowish flesh.

Kifli x 30
(AR description) Kifli is a white fingerling type from the Sarpo stable. No prefix because they don't consider it to be blight resistant but it has similar or better resistance when compared to all the other so- called blight resistors. It is named after the bread roll of Hungary which has a similar shape. It has good flavour - described as persisting "exceptional new potato" flavour. Salad/ general purpose. Resistant to yellow eelworm as well as virus and blackleg.

Lady Jo (CMK 1987-203-014 x VE 74-45) x 9
Bred for crisping (like Rooster) so will probably be very good for mashing and roasting, could be good for baking. Above average resistance to blight. Round, light yellow flesh.

Lady Valora x 60
Recent introduction for the crisping industry. Don't know any more about it.

Markies (2000 Agria x Fianna) x 40
Another recent attempt to displace Maris Piper from its chipping throne,
has higher yields and is being heavily promoted. Oval, yellow flesh.

Opera x 25
A recent floury general purpose, good flavour and excellent for roasting. Very good blight resistance too! Sounds too good to be true, I guess I'll have to grow some to see. Round / oval, yellow flesh.

Orchestra x 30
Recent introduction for general purpose / baking. Round oval, yellow flesh.

Pentland Dell (1960 Roslin Chania x Roslin Sasumua) x 60
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.

Rodeo x 50
High yielding general purpose / salad type. Long oval, red skin, light yellow flesh.

Rooster (1993) x 40 @ 20p
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.

Saphire x 30
High yields of baking size potatoes. Similar to Saxon. Round oval, cream flesh.

Sarpo Shona (2009 87.41.1090 x 84.13.2) x 30
(AR description) This is the latest blight resistor from the Sarvari Research Trust. Not quite in the Axona/ Mira league but better than everything else available. Shona is white skinned, earlier and more conventional. General purpose but fries and bakes well. Foliage is short but dense - manageable but also weed suppressing. Good resistance to virus and several skin fungi.

Setanta (Rooster x Brodick) x 20
If you want a good, floury, general purpose / roaster then this is close to perfection. Very good blight and disease resistance, inherited its cooking qualities from Rooster, high yielding and pretty. Oval, red skin, light yellow flesh.

Victoria x 15
Another Maris Piper alike, good for chips and frying. It has higher yields and is being heavily promoted. Oval, white, yellow flesh.

Vivaldi x 70
Heavily promoted as a less fattening potato (it has lower carbohydrates than others). Despite that it tastes OK. Fairly general purpose but doesn't excel in any particular direction. Oval, light yellow skin and flesh.

Late Maincrop

Arran Victory x 30
A striking, floury potato. Excellent for mashing and frying, very good for roasting and baking. Yields can be high and surprisingly early - it was our heaviest cropper (about 2.75kg/plant) in the blighted 2008 season at Netherton. Excellent. Roundish, purple skin, white flesh.

Peachbloom (1870?) x 200
The skin surface has a remarkable bloom or shine. Flesh is tender and sweet. One I'm going to try. Part pinkish skin, round with deep eyes, white flesh.

Sarpo Axona (2004 76 PO 12 14 268 x D187) x 8
(AR description) Officially just Axona but it is better known with the prefix. The two available red Sarpos are similar, coming from the same cross produced, after decades of work, by the Sarvari family in Hungary. They produce high food value crops in varying conditions and in a wide range of soils. Blight resistance is exceptional - only Sarpo Mira is better in my opinion. This variety is capable of growing new leaves at least as fast as old leaves slowly succumb to the infection. Tuber blight resistance is so high that I recommend not cutting the foliage when initial infection is spotted. Cut down say towards the end of August to prevent the continuously developing tubers from getting too large and too starchy. I think Axona has the better flavour over Mira by a small margin but I am a "floury" person and opinions vary.

Sarpo Mira (2003 76 PO 12 14 268 x D187) x 100
Mira is extremely blight and virus resistant - the most resistant variety known at the moment. Floury side of general purpose, tubers can get big. Stores exceptionally well, drought tolerant. Oval-ish, red skin, cream flesh.