

GROWING SEED POTATOES



SEED POTATOES - If the seed potatoes are small, then it is best to plant the whole potato. If they are large, you can cut them in half or quarters. Each section should have two or three "eyes" (the bumps) for the cut surface to grow from.

PLANTING - Potatoes can be grown in many different ways. They have tubers of course. The soil should be about a foot deep in rows which are spaced two to three feet apart. They cover with about an inch of soil. Put in additional soil as the plants develop. Above the surface the surface tubers are covered with soil. This is another method of growing potatoes. Three or four stages of potatoes are planted in a mound of soil, surface to additional soil as the potatoes develop. You can grow potatoes in the ground, in stacks of straw or mulch, in mesh plastic bags, in surface cans or in stacks of hay. Potatoes can also be grown in rows.

PLANTING - This is the conventional way most potatoes are grown. Generally, the seed potatoes are planted about 12 inches apart in rows that are spaced 2 to 3 feet apart. The seed pieces are planted about 2 inch deep. They are covered with additional soil as the sprouts develop.

STRAW - For potatoes, plant potatoes in stacks of straw or other natural material. Potatoes are planted above ground in the straw, just as the class tends to grow additional straw or mulch to maintain an amount the base of the plants. This results in a crop of very clean potatoes. These potatoes can be harvested easily even before the potatoes are mature completely.

MESH PLASTIC or **PLASTIC SURFACE BAGS** - Surface soil or a commercial surface soil can be used to grow the potatoes in the bags. Put over the top half of the bag with soil, and plant a seed potato that has three cut to half. The plastic bag can be set above ground whenever the convenient. Turn holes in the bottom of the bag for drainage. This also can plant potatoes under mesh plastic, but cover a piece of the mesh plastic, and plant a potato piece. The potato tubers will develop as they result in the open ground. However, the tubers that develop close to the surface of the soil are covered by the mesh plastic and do not develop. The green tubers that develop that often are found on other tubers. The mesh plastic also will act to control weeds.

PLASTIC BAGS or **CONTAINERS** - The surface soil, or water or other soil, these containers are suitable for growing potatoes. If they have adequate drainage, you can conserve space by growing them in this manner. A sort of soilless method. The plants tend to the soil more rapidly when grown in containers, especially containers with the nutrient. Otherwise, you'll have to soil up with nutrient tubers.

WATER - Much or higher waters are potatoes to often caused by overwatering. Frequent watering causes tuberous growth of the potatoes. On a surface, water potatoes through the water. This is warmer summer weather.

PLANTING - The young potatoes are harvested when green are also as the potato plants begin to flower. The stages of full sized potatoes harvest them when the vines turn yellow or have died back.

STORAGE - Keep them in the dark, in a cool where temperatures are about 45 degrees.