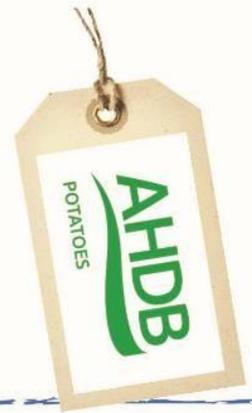


GROW YOUR OWN POTATOES



Factsheet 3: Growing tips

Growing your plants

Your plants will go through a number of growing stages.

Look at the potato cam in the videos section of the website (www.gyop.potato.org.uk) to see what stage your potato plant should be at.

The leaves of the plant may start to die off before it is time to harvest – don't worry, this is normal.

If the plant appears to be going mouldy, it is normally due to overwatering.

Growing potatoes in a greenhouse

If it is frosty outside, make sure all of the greenhouse windows are closed.

If it is very sunny, make sure the greenhouse is well ventilated so that the plant does not overheat.

The ideal temperature for growing potatoes is 10-15°C (50 – 59°F).

Where can I plant potatoes?

You can grow potatoes inside, outside, in a greenhouse or even start off inside and move containers outside when the weather is warmer.

Top tips:

Growing potatoes inside:

Put the container somewhere as light as possible, ideally south facing.

Make sure it is away from radiators or heaters

Keep turning the plant round so it grows upright

Keep the plant moist, but do not over water.

Growing potatoes outside:

Watch the weather forecast and bring containers inside if it is likely to be frosty.

Alternatively you can use bubble wrap or a blanket to protect the plants.

Plants can be grown in full or partial sunlight.



What varieties can I grow?

When choosing another variety you need to check that it will be able to grow in the time you have for the school term. Some varieties that should produce a reasonable yield in the time are: Premier, Swift, Estima, Marfona, Maris Bard and Desiree.

Remember if you are entering the GYOP competition, you will need to use the seed potatoes and the grow bags provided by AHDB Potatoes.

Good luck with your potato growing project!

