

Astra

High yielding crisping variety with exceptional storage quality



Variety description

Astra is a high yielding crisping variety, with impressive frying quality which lasts throughout the season and well into spring time, without converting starch into sugar. Astra is a variety with very high resistance to internal defects and with high virus Y and drought resistance, so it can be grown in a wide range of soils, both sandy and clay. Due to the general robustness of the variety, it can be used in organic production as well. Astra can provide a relatively high yield even with a low input of Nitrogen.

Characteristics

- Usage: Crisping
- Maturity: Medium early
- Yield: High
- Foliage: Strong - high
- Tuber size: Medium to big
- Tuber shape: Round-oval
- Number of tubers: 13-16
- Skin: Yellow
- Flesh colour: Light yellow
- Cooking type: BC
- IBVL frying colour* 8/8/7
- Dry matter content: High (23-25 DM%)
- Dormancy period: Long
- Nematodes: Resistance: Ro 1,4
- Wart disease: Susceptible
- Foliage blight: High resistance
- Tuber blight: Moderate resistance
- Common scab: High resistance

*IBVL frying colour scored in November/January/March



Growing advice

Astra needs time to adjust to the outside temperature before planting, so it should not be planted directly from the cold store, but after adjusting to the ambient temperature, Astra has a rather quick emergence.

Always plant in good weather and in good soil conditions. The soil temperature should be at least 8-10°C. Depending on the seed potato size, they should be planted at 10-16 cm's depth - bigger tubers should go deepest.

Apply 65-70% of Nitrogen before or preferably at planting. Apply the rest of the Nitrogen no later than around 50 days after emergence to ensure a low sugar content and a high dry matter. Furthermore ensure that the Potassium level in the soil is high enough to improve the storability. Apply the needed Potassium according to the normal index. Phosphate fertilization is recommended according to the standard advice and should preferably be placed in the ridge at planting.

Storage

Store at 8 degrees if the production is for the crisping industry to ensure good frying quality.

Storage of seed potatoes: ≈ 4-6°C

Storage of crisping potatoes: ≈ 8°C