



Planting Potatoes

Soil Preparation:

Potatoes do best in a rich, loose, slightly acidic soil. Amend poor soils with Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Conditioner or Acid Planting Mix. A good organic starter fertilizer can be added as well, used at the rates recommended on the package. If you are planting in containers, Gardner & Bloome Blue Ribbon Potting Soil is an excellent choice, paired with an acidic fertilizer.

Planting:

If you plan on cutting your potatoes, you should select starts with at least 2 good eyes. These pieces should be no smaller than 1.5 inches by 1.5 inches. Let dry for 24 hours after cutting and before planting to ensure a skin has formed over them. You can also plant your potato starts whole, which makes them less susceptible to disease and rot. You should plant your potatoes 12" apart, in rows 2.5 -3 feet apart. You should cover your starts with about 4" of soil. As your potatoes grow, you want to mound them with more soil, so you continue to cover the stems, leaving just a few leaves showing at the top of the plant. Another option is to use potato tubs, or similar sized pots or containers. This is a great option if you don't have very much gardening space.

Harvesting:

Your potato plants will flower and 'die back'. This is when you know they are ready to be harvested. Carefully dig in the soil or move soil away by hand to avoid damaging your new potatoes. Brush the soil off and place in burlap bags, shallow boxes, or baskets. Make sure to store your potatoes in a dark, dry area and store as close to 40°F as possible. Enjoy!

Ask us about our potato bags for easy planting and harvesting!

Please feel free to call us with any questions at 360-457-8462