

Kinds and Varieties

There are thousands of kinds and varieties of potatoes forming groups of well-defined shapes, such as long, oblong or roundish; of various colours as to their skin which may be white, yellow or red and as to their flesh which is white, yellow or purple.

In Europe a yellow-fleshed potato is preferred for home use; in America, a white-fleshed.

Potato varieties are also classified in order of maturity: early, medium or late.

Varieties most used in Quebec are the following: **EARLY**: Early Rose, Irish Cobbler; **MEDIUM**: Carman; **LATE**: Green Mountain, Gold Coin, Dakota Red.

The following varieties are in demand for export: **EARLY**: Early Rose, Irish Cobbler; **LATE**: Green Mountain.

Rotation of crop

A good cropping system should start with a hoed-crop. As the potato thrives in new lands it will succeed admirably on an old sod that will have received an abundant manuring just before being ploughed in the fall—the latter being imperative under such circumstances—or on a clover sod ploughed under in the spring.

As all progressive farmers have a proper cropping system, they will consequently not grow potatoes for several years out of the same ground.

Soil

The potato thrives in any soil, although a light loamy soil, or a soil well supplied with decayed or decaying vegetable matter is preferred. It will not succeed in compact, cold and wet soils which cause it to rot. Besides containing a plentiful supply of barn-manure, ploughed in clover etc., the soil should also be deep and the sub-soil properly loosened; because contrarily to what is generally thought, potato roots run to a great depth when the nature of the underground is favourable.

Lands with a compact sub-soil will not yield good crops unless it is loosened with a sub-soil plow.