

# POTATO GROWING GUIDE

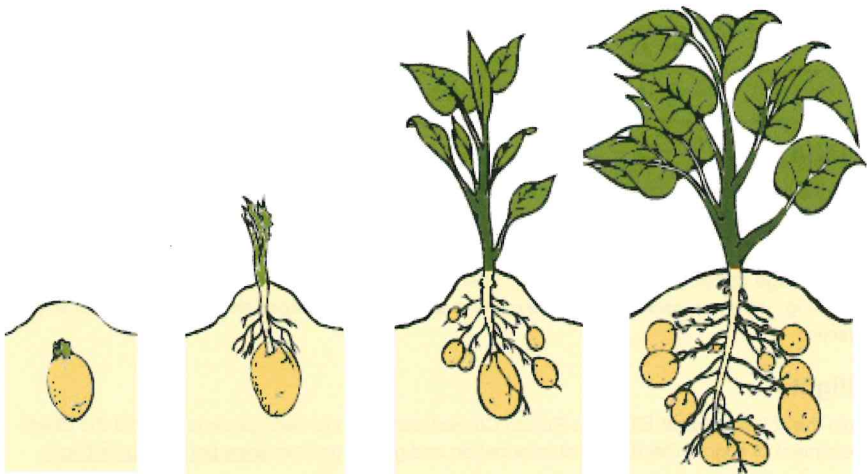
## Choosing Seed (Stage 1)

Always use healthy classified seed potatoes! Classified Basic Seed Potatoes are the highest grade of seed potatoes available.

Check the label on your seed potatoes – it should show the classification number, grade, size, certifying authority and many other details. Be very suspicious if labels are not present or if the label does not contain all the legally required information.

## Chitting (Stage 2)

Unwrap the seed potatoes and place in a shallow tray or egg tray in a cool, light, frost free place, several weeks prior to planting. The seed potatoes will develop strong sprouts (chits) which will help them grow quickly once planted. This is a helpful but not essential process.



STAGE 3

STAGE 4

STAGE 5

STAGE 6

## Soil Preparation & Planting (Stage 3)

Growing potatoes is easy! Dig the potato plot in autumn or spring, so that seed potatoes can be easily planted once soil temperatures are over 8°C. See table on reverse for comprehensive planting information.

## Earthing-up (Growing) (Stage 4 & 5)

When potatoes have emerged a few inches, pull earth around the plant with a rake, leaving peaked rows. Earthing-up gives the plant more soil to grow in, stops sunlight turning exposed tubers green and improves drainage. It is also a quick and effective way of controlling weeds. Repeat the process as required, until the foliage is too big.