East Bay Nursery

Purple Potato

Solanum tuberosum 'Purple'



Purple Potato fruit and flesh
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

A well loved, high yielding and versatile selection, perfect for large containers, raised beds and sunny gardens; round or oval, with deep purple skins and flesh; delicious flavor that is great for frying, boiling, roasting or making potato salad

Edible Qualities

Purple Potato is an annual vegetable plant that is commonly grown for its edible qualities. It produces deep purple round potatoes (which are botanically known as 'tubers') with violet flesh which are harvested from late summer to mid fall. The potatoes have a pleasant taste and a firm texture.

The potatoes are most often used in the following ways:

- Cooking
- Baking

Planting & Growing

Purple Potato will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 inches. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. This vegetable plant is an annual, which means that it will grow for one season in your garden and then die after producing a crop.

This plant is typically grown in a designated vegetable garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant is a heavy feeder that requires frequent fertilizing throughout the growing season to perform at its best. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Purple Potato is a good choice for the vegetable garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.