

**REPORT OF TRIAL OF EARLY POTATOES 1997/98
FIRST EARLIES AND SECOND EARLIES**

- Objective:** To assess the yield, colour of flesh and skin; shape and size of potatoes submitted by seed companies from the United Kingdom and The National Institute of Agricultural Botany (N.I.A.B.)
- Entries:** There were 16 entries in the trial of first earlies and 22 entries in the trial of second earlies as listed below.
- Cultivation:** Ten seed potatoes of each entry were grown on by N.I.A.B during 1997 and sent to Wisley at the end of January 1998 where they were placed in trays for chitting, in a frost free greenhouse.
- First earlies were planted out on 10 March 1998 approximately 8cm deep, spaced 30cm x 60cm apart. Second earlies were planted out on 30 March 1998 approximately 8cm deep, spaced 40cm x 75cm apart. As soon as the crop was visible it was earthed up and covered with double fleece to protect from frost. The fleece was removed on 12 May and the crop irrigated.
- Records:** Cropping records were made to record the total weight lifted from 4 plants and the percentage of small medium and medium/large potatoes in each sample. Cooked potatoes (boiled or steamed) were rated for taste on a scale of 1-5.
- Judging** Members of the Vegetable Trials Subcommittee inspected the trial on 15 June and 2 July and recommended the Award of Garden Merit [AGM] to 11 entries. The entries 'Concorde', 'Maxine' and 'Picasso' were deemed worthy of retaining the AGM recommended previously in 1993.

Award	No.	Name	Sender
1st early			
AGM (H3) 1998	1	'Accent'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	2	'Ballydoon'	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
	3	'Belle de Fontenay'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1993 confirmed 1998	4	'Concorde'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	5	'Dunluce'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	6	'Foremost'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	7	'Lady Christl'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	8	'Lola'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	9	'Maris Bard'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	10	'Nikita'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	11	'Red Duke of York'	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
	12	'Rocket'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	13	'Sharpes Express'	N.I.A.B.
	14	'Swift'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	15	'Winston'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
2nd early			
	16	'International Kidney'	N.I.A.B.
AGM (H3) 1998	17	'British Queen'	Mr Fothergill's Seeds

	18	'Carlingford'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	19	'Catriona'	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
AGM (H3) 1998	20	'Charlotte'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	21	'Dark Red Norland'	Agrolon Ltd
	22	'Dunbar Rover'	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
	23	'Edzell Blue'	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
	24	'Kestrel'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	25	'Kondor'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	26	'Linzer Delikatess'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	27	'Marfona'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1993 confirmed 1998	28	'Maxine'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	29	'Nadine'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	30	'Nicola'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
AGM (H3) 1993 confirmed 1998	31	'Picasso'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	32	'Pomfine'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	33	'Ratte'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	34	'Rootsi'	Agrolon Ltd
AGM (H3) 1998	35	'Roseval'	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	36	Sdg. 3/91 (Tiffany)	S E Marshall & Co Ltd
	37	Sdg. A89-21-43	Agrolon Ltd
	38	'Vale Vale'	Agrolon Ltd

First earlies

'Accent' AGM (H3) 15 June 1998 (Raised by S E Marshall & Co Ltd, Regal Road, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2RF.) Tubers round/long shallow eyed, skin and flesh colour cream. Marks for taste 3.5 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 4.5kg [1]

'Foremost' AGM (H3) 15 June 1998 (Raised by Suttons Seeds Ltd, sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.) Tubers round/long, skin and flesh colour white. Marks for taste 2.2 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 4.8kg. [6]

'Red Duke of York' AGM (H3) 15 June 1998 (Raised by William Sim, sent by Mr Fothergill's Seeds Ltd, Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB.) Tubers round/oval, shallow eyed, skin colour red, flesh cream. Marks for taste 2.7 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 4.1kg [11]

'Winston' AGM (H3) 2 July 1998 (Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.) Tubers round, skin and flesh colour cream. Marks for taste 2.3 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 8.25kg [15]

Second earlies

'British Queen' AGM (H3) 2 July 1998 (Raised by Archibald Findlay, sent by Mr Fothergill's Seeds Ltd.) Tubers round, skin and flesh colour white. Marks for taste 2.5 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 7.25kg. [17]

'Charlotte' AGM (H3) 2 July 1998 (Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd) Tubers oval/long skin colour cream, flesh yellow. Marks for taste 4 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 4.3kg. [20]

'Dark Red Norland' AGM (H3) 15 June 1998 (Sent by Agrolon Ltd, The Cottages, Wester Meathie, Forfar, Angus, Scotland DD8 1XJ.) Tubers round, skin colour red, flesh colour

white. Marks for taste 3 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 4.5kg. [21]

'Kondor' AGM (H3) 2 July 1998 (Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.) Tubers oval/long, skin colour pink, flesh colour cream. Marks for taste 3 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 7.1kg. [25]

'Lady Christl' AGM (H3) 15 June 1998 (Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.) Tubers oval, skin colour cream, flesh colour yellow. Marks for taste 2.6 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 3.6kg. [7]

'Nadine' AGM (H3) 15 June 1998 (Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.) Tubers round shallow eyed, skin and flesh colour cream. Marks for taste 2.7 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 5.7kg. [29]

'Roseval' AGM (H3) 15 June 1998 (Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.) Tubers oval, shallow eyed, skin colour red, flesh colour cream. Marks for taste 3.3 (out of 5). Weight lifted from 4 plants 3.65kg. [35]

The following entries were deemed worthy of retaining the AGM recommended in 1993:

'Concorde'

Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.

A first early Dutch cultivar; oval to long tubers with waxy yellow flesh; high yield

'Maxine'

Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.

A second early, pink skinned variety with good shaped tubers

'Picasso'

Sent by S E Marshall & Co Ltd.

A second early variety with a high yield.

H3 = plants hardy outside in some regions or in particular situations or which, whilst usually grown outside in summer, need frost-free protection in winter

**Names and Addresses of Senders of Seed to the trial of Potatoes
1st and 2nd earlies**

Agrolon Ltd
The Cottages
Wester Meathie
Forfar
Angus
DD8 1XJ

National Institute of Agricultural Botany
Huntington Road
Cambridge
CB3 0LE

Mr Fothergill's Seeds Ltd
Gazeley Road
Kentford
Newmarket
Suffolk
CB8 7QB

S E Marshall & Co Ltd
Regal Road
Wisbech
Cambs
PE13 2RF

Further information on this trial is available from:
Trials Office, The Royal Horticultural Society, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB