



by farmers in Narok, Bomet and Kiambu.

Spacing: Requires 75 cm between the rows and 30 cm within the rows.

#### Fertilization

Use compound fertilizer e.g Diamonium Phosphate at the rate of 200kg/acre in soils with pH above 5. In soils with pH below 5, use Monoammonium Phosphate at the rate of 200 kg/acre.

Parentage: Urgenta x Depesche

Year released: 1945



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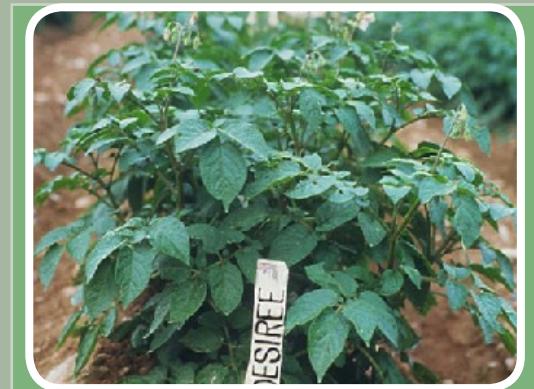
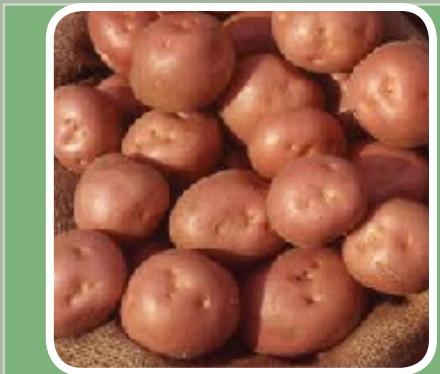
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**Editorial and Publication Coordinated by:**  
Knowledge, Information and Outreach Unit

KALRO Information Brochure Series No. 2017/052

**DESIREE:**  
A potato variety for  
Production quality chips



## Introduction

### Plant description

Desiree is a short potato variety (just about 0.7 metres in height) with strong erect stems, dark green medium sized leaves and rare light pink flowers.



Potential yield

Ranges between 25-35 t/ha (90-130 bags if packed in 110 kg bags per acre) under sufficient rainfall and recommended crop production practices.

### Storability

Has very good storability of up to 3 to 3 1/2 months, while still retaining marketable values. Farmers do not have to sell their tubers immediately after harvest especially when the prices are low.



### Resistance to diseases

This variety is moderately tolerant to potato virus Y (PVY), moderately susceptible to potato leaf roll virus (PLRV) and susceptible to bacterial wilt and late blight. Since this variety is susceptible to late blight, it is advisable to use locally available fungicides as soon as late blight symptoms appear in the crop.



Maturity: Early (80-110 days).

Sprout colour:

Dark red under diffused light store.

### Tubers

Oval in shape with well pronounced medium eye depth.

Tuber skin colour: Red

Flesh colour: Light yellow



### Tuber dormancy

Long 120-135 days under diffuse light store. It is therefore advisable to plant well sprouted tubers.



### Number of tubers per plant

The variety produces medium to large sized tubers ranging from 5 - 8 depending on the crop husbandry practices.

### Areas to be grown

Desiree is well adapted to wide range of environments but for optimum productivity, an altitude of 1800-2600 m.a.s.l is most suitable. It is most preferred