



Mau Narok, Nyandarua, Kiambu, Embu, Meru (Mount Kenya region), Molo among others.

Recommended spacing

Requires spacing of 80 cm between rows and 30 cm within the rows to accommodate the large number of tubers and to give enough space for proper earthing up.

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: 387231.7 x 387170.9

Clone number: CIP 393385.39

Year released: 2010



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SHEREKEA

A high yielding late blight tolerant potato variety with good cooking and processing qualities





Introduction

Plant description

Sherekea is a medium sized potato plant with strong semi erect-stems, dark green small to medium-sized leaves, very abundant light purple flowers and regular flowering habit. The variety produces a vigorous crop with good ground cover.



Potential yield:

Ranges from 40-50 t/ha (145-200 bags if packed in 110 kg bags per acre) under sufficient rainfall and recommended crop production practices.

This is the highest yielding variety so far.

Resistance to diseases

Multiple resistances to many of the major diseases in potato growing areas in Kenya which includes very strong horizontal resistance to late blight, resistance to PVY and PLRV and is moderately susceptible to leaf miner. Due to high tolerance to late blight, a minimum of two fungicide sprays are recommended during the growing period.

Number of tubers per plant

The variety produces very high number of medium to large size tubers per plant. This ranges from 15-40 depending on the crop husbandry practices.

Dry matter content: High (21.9 %).

Storability: Very good storability of up to 3 months while still retaining marketable values.

Chipping and crisping quality: Good

Boiling and mashing qualities: Good

Maturity: Medium late (105-120 days).

Tuber dormancy: Medium 80-100 days under diffused light store. Since tubers take

relatively longer time to sprout. It is therefore advisable to plant well sprouted tubers.

Sprout colour: Red-violet under diffused light store



Tubers: Round in shape with medium to deep eye depth

Tuber skin colour: Attractive red skin colour.

Flesh colour: Cream

Areas to be grown

Sherekea is well adapted to a wide range of environments. For optimum productivity, an altitude of 1800-3000 m.a.s.l is most suitable. Such altitude range is common in many potato growing areas such as Mt. Elgon, Kisii, Bomet,