

Rio Grande Russet (AC89536-5RU)

Parentage:

Butte x A8469-5

Developer(s):

Colorado State University
USDA-ARS

Plant Variety Protection:

To be applied for



Incentives for Production: High total yield potential and high percentage of US No. 1 tubers.

Seed Availability: Certified seed is available from producers in Colorado.

Morphological Characteristics

Plant: Large, semi-erect plant with light purple flowers

Tubers: Oblong, medium-heavy russet, white flesh

Agronomic Characteristics

Usage: Fresh market

Yield Potential: High total yield (>500 cwt) and a high percentage of US No. 1 tubers (82%, >400 cwt)

Specific Gravity: Medium-high (average 1.086)

Maturity: Medium

Tubers: Resistant to hollow heart, second growth, blackspot bruise, and shatter bruise.

Suggested Cultural Management: The use of single drop or healed pre-cut seed is suggested.

Current recommendations for nitrogen are to preplant (or at-planting) apply 50 lbs/A . Add another 50 lbs/A nitrogen five to six weeks after planting (mid to late June). The last application of 40 to 50 lbs/A nitrogen should not exceed 150 lbs/A. Avoid late application of nitrogen (after July 31).

Agronomic Characteristics (cont'd)

Suggested Cultural Management (cont'd):

Excessive nitrogen, applied late in the season, may delay maturity sufficiently to cause vine killing and/or storage problems.

Field observations have shown that **Rio Grande Russet** is tolerant of metribuzin. No injury has been observed when other commonly labeled herbicides have been used. The large vines of **Rio Grande Russet** will successfully compete with most mid- to late-season weeds.

Storability: Dormancy 85 days at 45F (slightly shorter than Russet Norkotah and Russet Nugget).

Diseases: Moderately resistant to spread of leafroll and PVY with good expression. Foliar ring rot expression is typical and occurs well within 90 days of planting. Susceptible to blackleg. Vine growth is excellent and risk from foliar early blight is moderate. *Erwinia* tuber rot found on infected tubers is rated similar to Russet Nugget, so growers should make every effort to obtain clean, limited generation certified seed. *Fusarium* rot is rated similar to Russet Nugget and may be of concern under certain circumstances, but early blight tuber decay tends to be low. **Rio Grande Russet** is resistant to powdery scab tuber symptoms and has a very low root galling index.