

# Yukon Nugget (POR02PG37-2) Cultural Management

November 2012 – MJ Pavek – Washington State University

*Disclaimer: This may change slightly in near future as research and grower feedback increases.*

**Preface:** Yukon Nugget was developed to provide the potato industry an alternative to Yukon Gold. The overall tuber size profile for Yukon Nugget is smaller and more uniform than that of Yukon Gold. Yukon Nugget typically produces 4-5 more tubers per plant than Yukon Gold, which on average weigh 2-3 oz less than those of Yukon Gold. It is important to note that preliminary comparison data for Yukon Nugget and Yukon Gold was collected from research trials grown under numerous management schemes across several different regions. Often the cultural management was typical of commercial Yukon Gold production or within a field being managed for early harvest specialty varieties. Yukon Nugget performed well under all management schemes.

**Seed Size:** 1.5 to 3 oz

**In-Row Spacing:** Under the same in-row spacing as Yukon Gold, Yukon Nugget produced up to 5 more tubers per plant that weighed an average of 2-3 oz less than Yukon Gold. Based on Table 1, below, adjust in-row spacing according to your experience with Yukon Gold and the market sizes you desire most. In-row spacing of 8 inches for a harvest date of approximately 110 days after planting (DAP) in the Columbia Basin of WA yielded the values below:

|                     | US No. 1 | US No. 1 Tuber Yield by Size |        |        |         |        |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
|                     | Yield    | 0-2 oz                       | 2-4 oz | 4-6 oz | 6-10 oz | >10 oz |
|                     | CWT/A    | ----- % -----                |        |        |         |        |
| <b>Yukon Gold</b>   | 394      | 2                            | 10     | 15     | 39      | 34     |
| <b>Yukon Nugget</b> | 452      | 5                            | 31     | 31     | 25      | 7      |

**Row Width:** Typical for your region and operation; for Washington 34 inches or less.

**Planting Depth:** Typical for your region and operation; for Columbia Basin 8 inches from top of hill to the top of the seed piece.

***Prevent Rhizoc by using an approved fungicide and planting rhizoc-free seed.***

## **Cultural Management:**

Yukon Nugget was grown under many management regimes during development. All locations reported success with Yukon Nugget when it was produced using cultural management similar to what is used on other early to medium maturing potato varieties, such as Yukon Gold. At this time, there are no specific nutrient recommendations for Yukon Nugget. This management guide will be updated as more information becomes available.

## **Organic Production:**

Specific recommendations have not been established. However, research has suggested that Yukon Nugget will likely do well under organic production.