

## **Van Der Plank**

### **Botanical characteristics:**

---

Growth	Fairly strong, upright grower that develops fairly quickly to medium height. Usually a low number of stems per plant but provides good foliage.
Flowers	Few flowers are formed - the colour is pure white.
Tubers	Oval, long to pear shaped with shallow eyes. The skin and flesh is white.

### **Agronomical characteristics:**

---

Growth period	Short (70 - 90 days from sprouting until natural foliage death.)
Yield	Average yield potential under optimal conditions. Low yield potential under dry land cultivation (especially if water strain occurs at the start of the season.)
Tuber size distribution	Predominantly medium and large tubers with a low percentage small tuber, even under unfavourable cultivation conditions.
Tuber appearance	Evenly shaped. Misform tubers occurs under unfavourable conditions (heat and water strain.) , but secondary growth seldom occurs.
Tuber rest period	Long (90-110 days from natural foliage death until sprouting) The rest period of progeny tubers are shortened considerably if the mother plants are exposed to heat and or water strain during the growth season.
General	Vanderplank is sensitive to cold soil, therefore not suitable for winter and early spring plantings except in areas with warmer winter months. (Northern Province and parts of Mpumalanga and Kwazulu-Natal) Vanderplank provides the best yield on heavier fertile soil.

### **Consumer characteristics:**

---

Eating quality	Very good. Solid cooking type that does not quench or discolour after cooking.
Processing quality	Suitable for processing to fried chips and frozen chips product. Average to low relative density (SG) and very low reducing sugar content.
Keeping quality	Very good storage capability under all cultivation conditions. Quality weakens very slowly in order to store tubers for long periods in the soil or in cold storage.

### **Diseases:**

---

Late Blight	Mild resistance.
Early blight	Mildly susceptible.
Viral diseases	Mild field resistance to leafroll and mosaic.
Common Scab	Susceptible.
Fusarium-wilt	Susceptible.
Fusarium-dryrot	Very susceptible.
Physiological deviation	Hollow hart and internal browning seldom occurs, even under unfavourable cultivation conditions.