

## **Darius**

### **Botanical characteristics:**

Growth	Fairly strong upright grower that sprays with maturation. Develops relatively quickly with good foliage.
Flowers	Considerable amount of flowers are formed. Flowers are white.
Tubers	Oval to long tubers with shallow eyes. The skin and flesh is white.

### **Agronomical characteristics:**

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Growth period	Medium (90 - 110 days from sprouting until natural foliage death.)
Yield	Fairly high yield. The yield is similar to BP1 when planted in spring and early summer under irrigation. Late summer, autumn and winter plantings as well as dry land plantings deliver a yield lower than BP1.
Tuber size distribution	Predominantly medium tubers. This cultivar delivers a higher percentage small tubers than BP1 under unfavourable conditions ( heat and water strain.)
Tuber appearance	Fairly even tuber form. Secondary growth and misform tubers seldom occurs when produced under irrigation but a high occurrence of secondary growth might be experienced under dry land conditions.
Tuber rest period	Medium (70-90 days at room temperature 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.

### **Consumer characteristics:**

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Eating quality	Good. Powdery, solid cooking type that quench after cooking. No colour changes after cooking.
Processing quality	Good. Good internal quality, keeping quality and high relative density makes this cultivar suitable for processing to chips and frozen chips.
Keeping quality	Good. The internal quality of the tubers weakens gradually after natural foliage death.

### **Diseases:**

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Late Blight	Mildly susceptible.
Early blight	Mildly susceptible.
Viral diseases	Good field resistance to leafroll and mosaic.
Common Scab	Mild resistance.
Physiological deviation	Hollow hart seldom occurs but internal browning occurs generally during spring plantings where high temperatures are experienced during tuber development.