

Beacon Chipper

Parentage: Unknown

Developers: Michigan State University and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, Michigan Potato Industry Commission, Maine Potato Seed Board, Maine Potato Board

Plant Variety Protection: In application

Strengths: Beacon Chipper is a high yielding, round white potato with an attractive round appearance with shallow eyes. Beacon Chipper has observed to be tolerant of mid-season heat stress with early to mid-season bulking. This variety has some tolerance to *Streptomyces scabies* (common scab) in comparison to Atlantic and Snowden. Beacon Chipper also has good chip-processing storage characteristics and better tolerance to pressure bruise than Snowden.



Weaknesses: Similar to Atlantic for blackspot bruise potential.

Incentives for production: High yield combined with early to mid-season bulking.

Seed Availability: Virus-free tissue culture plantlets of Beacon Chipper were sent to Sklarczyk Seed Farm (8714 M32 East, Johannesburg, MI 49751 phone 989-731-5452) and Krueger Seed Farm (2797 W. Hawkes Hwy., Hawks, MI 49743 phone 989-734-7366). Porter Seed Farm (Dr. Vikram Bisht, phone 207-435-6060) maintains tissue culture plantlets and may have small amounts of FG1 seed. Iott Seed Farm, Kalkaska, MI (phone 231-258-8294) will have seed in 2007.

Morphological Characteristics:

Plant: Medium to tall height, semi-erect with a balance between stems and foliage visible, and white colored flowers.

Tubers: Round tubers with flakey, brown colored skin. Tubers have creamy flesh with a low incidence of internal defects. Total glycoalkaloids in the tuber are low.

Agronomic Characteristics:

Maturity: Mid-season, earlier than Snowden

Tubers: Round tubers with flakey, brown colored skin and a creamy flesh.

Yield: High yield under irrigated and dryland conditions. Greater than or equivalent to Atlantic.

Specific Gravity: Ranges from 1.077 to 1.083 in Michigan.

Culinary Quality: Excellent chip color from field and from short to mid-term storage.

Foliage: Medium to tall, semi-erect vine.

Diseases: Intermediate resistance to common scab, better than Atlantic.

Storability: Medium dormancy comparable to Atlantic.