

Table 1. Summary of potato production stages highlighting a Norgold Russet model¹, key production practices and potato events.

Production Stage	WAP ²	Date ¹ (model)	Tuber ¹ Development	Stem ¹ Height	Production Practices	Potato Events
Pre-planting to Planting	< 0	May 10	---	---	seed preparation fertilization	seed aging
Planting to Emergence	0-3	May 31	rhizomes "hooking"	0 in.	weed control fertilization	sprout, rhizome and root growth
Emergence to Tuber Initiation	3-6	June 14 June 21	"swelling" "initiation"	5 in. 11 in.	early irrigation fertilization	vine, rhizome and root growth
Initiation to Tuber Bulking	6-8	July 5	< ½ oz.	14 in.	irrigation pest monitoring pest control	vine growth tuber initiation flowering
Tuber Bulking to Vine Senescence	8-14	July 19 Aug. 2 Aug. 16	1-2 oz. 2-8 oz. 8-11 oz.	15 in. 16 in. 16 in.	irrigation pest monitoring pest control	tuber growth
Vine Senescence to Harvest	14-20	Sep. 1 Sep. 21	9-12 oz. maturing	16 in. dead	disease control vine desiccation	vine death tuber maturity
Harvest and Storage	> 18	---	---	---	bruise avoidance storage management	bruise healing tuber weight loss tuber dormancy

¹ The model is Norgold Russet, an early-season russet-skinned variety, planted on May 10 at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center, Scottsbluff, Nebraska. This model represents a growing season of 134 days from planting to harvest (19 weeks after planting) or a vine and tuber growth season of 92 days (13 weeks) from emergence to vine kill (16 weeks after planting).

² WAP = weeks after planting [Emergence occurs about three weeks after planting.]